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Happy New Year

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then the van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

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Johnny Gates, visited The Worker office last Tuesday a few hours after their "protective custody" expired.

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party, the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

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JACK STACHEL



BEN DAVIS



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workingmen.

Fearfully, awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

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Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly

locked in a struggle over basically the same issues. At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-won wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly about a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing, and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

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Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH!

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Hederman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation.

Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

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New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week...\$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.) \$41,675.48
Still to go...\$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to
P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station,
New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if
in New York, bring them to 35
E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.

1955 • The Year End View • 1956

LABOR

By GEORGE MORRIS

LABOR'S hopes for the year '56 are higher than they have been for many years. With the AFL and CIO united after a generation of division and strife, their combined fifteen million members look forward to the end of stagnation and an era of new advances.

For the first time since the stormy rise of the late 30s, a union's New Year greetings to its members has substance and a genuine ring. And the fact that the spirit of Geneva merged with the spirit of unity, takes the hollowness out of the customary wish for a "Happy and peaceful New Year."

A year ago in the Jan. 2 Worker, writing on the prospects for labor for the year 1955, when the AFL and CIO were preparing to negotiate, we said "it now appears a merger is more likely



On Threshold of 'New Beginning'

than not" in 1955, and we went on:

"The full implications of this merger go far beyond the comprehension of the very men who are negotiating for it. It would be absolutely wrong to view the steps and negotiations for unity as an operation of a few top labor leaders, much as those leaders may try to confine it to their narrow circle.

"Marxists and all progressive-thinking persons see the basic dynamics in the picture—the active pressure, sentiment and expectations from unity among the 15,000,000 workers in the AFL and CIO, and the impetus a merger can have on the entire course of labor in the years to come. . . .

"The strong possibility of a merger, therefore, may open a fresh perspective for American labor as a whole, and especially for the active left progressive forces within the labor movement."

THE MERGER is now a reality. We repeat the above lines,

because events of the year have both confirmed and underlined them. As soon as the merger stream began to flow and gain in swiftness, it has stirred the workers in the shops and communities to fresh interest. The pressure of their sentiments and desires—so decisive in the decisions of the leaders to merge—are expressing themselves in more articulate and stronger forms. The very act of holding the AFL-CIO convention, and the tremendous publicity it received, has greatly enlivened those currents in the rank and file that have led to the merger.

MUCH OF what the workers want in the coming year broke through at the convention.

• The main target was the "Cadillac cabinet" and major attention on political action effective enough to unseat it in '56.

• A fresh drive to organize millions of unorganized stood out as the most important objective.

• Very important prominence was given the struggle for civil

rights in an out of the labor movement.

• A program against McCarthyism, in large measure an advance over past AFL policy, was adopted.

• An economic and legislative program covering the needs of the people was adopted.

But the popular demand for peace did not, however, break through, certainly not with clear and strong enough force to indicate a real change in labor's attitude.

THERE is much about the merger that is unclear. The lines of possible realignment are unclear and indefinite. Some of the things George Meany has done since the convention, run counter to its spirit and decisions.

But one thing must be borne in mind: the AFL-CIO was born with the dogs of monopoly capitalism growling and barking at it. The decisive sections among the employers don't like (Continued on Page 14)

CIVIL RIGHTS

By ABNER W. BERRY

IN 1955, the State of Mississippi, with its unpunished murders of Negroes part of its stubborn defense against federal law and order, almost eclipsed the advance of the law itself against second class citizenship. There were advances, significant ones on the legal front against racism—the May 31 Supreme Court ruling against the segregated schools, a later decision banning legalized segregation in public parks and the refusal of the Supreme Court to upset a lower court ruling against segregated golf courses and all public recreational facilities.

But the Mississippi murders have overshadowed these advances and grimly remind us that these historic decisions are still very much paper decisions. Even before the Supreme Court issued its ruling on May 31 the



Will Seeds of Freedom Take Root?

organized racists struck in Mississippi. The Rev. George Wesley Lee, the 60-year-old minister of Belzoni, had taken too seriously an 11-year-old high court decision barring discrimination at the polls. He paid for this with his life. His murderers have not even been looked for.

THERE were other murders in Mississippi since May 31, notably those of Lamar Smith, who, like the Rev. Lee, wanted the vote for Negroes, and the latest killing of Clinton Melton, 33, in Glendora. But the 1955's historic murder was that of 14-year-old Emmett Louis Till. The brutality of Till's kidnapping and murder sent shudders of revulsion throughout the world and focused the attention on Mississippi's lack of democracy more than any incident had done before in this century.

But it should not be forgotten that there preceded the Till murder a rather disgraceful spectacle in Washington, in which the country's political leaders, including the President, himself,

built a road block against all legislative efforts to put the weight of Congress behind those fighting for Negro first class citizenship. Every effort to get Congressional approval of anti-segregation proposal was met with derisive cries of "rider" and "extraneous." The organized political racists were thus encouraged.

The Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for the first time in many years conducted a running fight with the President and his supporters on the issue of anti-segregation amendments. And there was no support from Democratic liberals and little from labor leaders, either, for the NAACP position.

WHITE Citizens Councils, whose openly-avowed aims were for "keeping the Negro in his place" grew apace. And a new word was added to the vocabulary of political struggle in America—the "economic squeeze." For the first time powerful groups in the South began to fight for white supremacy by using bank credit, the wholesale

market and the retail distributive system to force Negroes to give up "voluntarily" rights the U. S. Supreme Court had declared were theirs.

But as the terror grew from starving little children (if their parents wanted unsegregated schools) to murdering little children (as in the Till case) former legislative champions of civil rights hid behind another convenient term: "Party harmony." And the Attorney General of the United States, Herbert Brownell, pleaded "no jurisdiction." In effect, 1955, brought us dangerously close to the principle of "local option" on the Constitution and federal law. For they moved not a finger to enforce the Supreme Court's ruling against segregation and did nothing to help the prosecution in the Till murder case.

THE Interstate Commerce Commission has followed the Supreme Court decision and has banned jimmie travel restrictions for all interstate passengers. Jan. 10, 1956, has been set as (Continued on Page 14)

PEACE

By JOSEPH CLARK

THE WORLD moved toward a lasting peace in 1955 and the high point of course was the Big Four summit conference in Geneva.

Events that took place before and after the July meeting of the heads of state showed that the easing of international tensions owed little thanks to the Cadillac Administration in Washington.

The year began with the throwing of a boomerang by John Foster Dulles. The Secretary of State launched a big blustering attack against China just after the new year was rung in. He was going to have the United Nations condemn China over the arrest of the 11 American airmen shot down over Chinese territory.

That's how it started. But it came out quite differently. The United Nations sent its top offi-



This Year Should See China in UN

cial, Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld on a mission to Peking. The UN chief first visited Indian Prime Minister Nehru and then had long cordial conferences with Premier Chou En-lai in Peking.

HAMMARSKJÖLD came back and told Dulles that the 11 American airmen could be freed immediately. All that was necessary, the UN spokesman told Dulles, was for our government to sit down and negotiate with the Chinese.

Dulles showed he was more interested in waging the cold war against the socialist world than in getting the release of the American airmen. He kept putting off negotiations. But, by the time of the Geneva conference Dulles couldn't prevent the new spirit from spilling over into the Far East. Negotiations were undertaken in Geneva on an ambassadorial level between the U.S. and China. As the talks got under way the Chinese informed us that the American airmen were already free.

IN APRIL at Bandung there

took place another historic gathering—the Asian-African conference at Bandung, Indonesia. The majority of the world's people was represented when the 29 Asian and African nations condemned colonialism and racism. The solidarity of these countries smashed the hopes of the State Department that they could turn Bandung into an anti-Communist vs. Communist gabfest. The principle of peaceful coexistence prevailed. Premier Chou En-lai insured that when he noted calmly that the 29 governments had come together not to air their differences but to find areas of agreement.

IN JULY AT GENEVA the Big Four recognized the real relationship of forces in the world and agreed on a common renunciation of war. President Eisenhower told the world that the Soviet leaders were as sincere and anxious for peace as he was. The hoax of a danger of Soviet aggression suffered an irreparable defeat.

The cold war has been too profitable, however, for the big corporations of this country, for

them to agree right off to ending the entire cold war. So it was symptomatic that soon after the summit meeting a special meeting of the National Security Council took place in Washington with President Eisenhower presiding. As James Reston of the N.Y. Times reported, the Eisenhower Administration decided to "put a brake on the enthusiasm for the spirit of Geneva."

The brake was applied at the Big Four foreign ministers conference which met at the end of October and beginning of November. Three questions had been put before the foreign ministers by the summit meeting: European security and the German question; disarmament; development of East-West contacts.

Agreement was not recorded on any of those issues because John Foster Dulles came to Geneva with an ultimatum. It added up to the demand that the Soviet Union accept a re-armed, reunited Germany whose new Wehrmacht would be put (Continued on Page 14)

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Eugene Dennis Grants First Interview

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terests of our people and country."

I ASKED him if he believed that the political situation in our country had improved much since he entered federal prison in July 1951. Dennis, puffing a briar pipe, rose from his chair and paced the floor of the little editorial sanctum where the interview took place.

"In many respects, quite definitely," he said. "As is well known, since November 1952 there has been a pronounced rise of sentiment in our country for peace, against McCarthyism and against the Cadillac Cabinet. And there have been many expressions of this sentiment. This growing democratic trend was a real factor in helping to end the war in Korea; it helped block the proposals for U. S. military intervention in Indochina advanced by the Nixon-Dulles and Knowland-Radford cliques. It played a big role in bringing about the very important political setbacks which the GOP, and especially the McCarthyites, received in the 1954 elections. Already the latter development has had positive political repercussions and is beginning to find reflection even in some of the Supreme Court decisions."

IN THE field of labor, too, there were important positive developments, Dennis continued. He said there had been an expansion of trade union unity both in strikes and on the political field, "not to speak of the momentous merger of the AFL-CIO." Already the merger had had good effects.

"And in due course," said Dennis, "in the process of struggle, this unity will enormously enhance labor's economic and political power and the advancement of its genuine interests."

"Moreover, there has been a great upsurge in the fighting unity of the Negro people and a noticeable growth of Negro-white solidarity in the struggle for desegregation, for equal rights and for an end to the barbaric lynch terror in the deep South."

Dennis described this as one of the most promising features of recent political developments.

He added that the political ferment among the farmers, as they make a "new search for a way out of the acute crisis in agriculture,"



Dennis and Gates greeted by The Daily Worker Staff.

was extremely significant. This has been reflected, he said, in a promising growth of farmer-labor political cooperation.

And above all, Dennis emphasized, "there is Geneva."

The Big Four conference at the Summit, he said, "is a victory for the American people no less than for all other peoples, a victory for the policy of peaceful negotiations and settlement of outstanding international questions."

AS THE Geneva spirit is fought for by the people, here and abroad, said Dennis, it shall have, despite zigzags on the international arena, significant and "increasingly positive political repercussions" within our country, too.

"All in all," said Dennis, "conditions are becoming more propitious for bringing into being a new and powerful labor-democratic coalition."

Does that mean, I asked, that reaction in the U. S. has about run its course, and that it is now on the ebb as, say, during the late 1920's?

Dennis resumed his seat and relit his pipe.

"At best," he said, "analogies limp, so I'll limit my reply in this way."

"It is true the McCarthyites have been partially rebuffed and that the American trusts, now the center of world reaction, have suffered a series of major setbacks in their drive towards world domination."

"At the same time the worldwide camp of peace, democracy and socialism grows decisively stronger."

"It is also a fact that within the country the postwar offensive of monopoly reaction has met with mounting resistance, as I mentioned. And it is incontestable that Geneva, which was imposed by the people, opens new possibilities for the democratic forces to compel an end to the cold war and facilitate peaceful and mutually beneficial relations between East and West."

"But Geneva also does this—it affords new opportunities for the popular majority in our nation to effectively resist and checkmate monopoly's cold war against the living standards, liberties and rights of the American people."

DENNIS rose from his chair as if to emphasize the other side of the picture he was outlining.

"Nonetheless," he said, "it should be borne in mind that the war danger, which was reduced as a result of Geneva, has not yet been eliminated."

The expansionist drive of Wall Street is a long way from being scuttled, he said. NATO, SEATO and METO, and the "colossal" bipartisan arms program are "grim reminders," he said.

"It needs to be remembered," Dennis continued, "that monopoly's ruthless drive here at home for super-profits and what it calls 'a free political hand'—although it is being increasingly resisted by the people—has thus far been only partially contained."

Dennis pointed out that the "creeping fascism" and militarization of the state apparatus had not yet been checked. "The

statute books are still loaded with thought-control and anti-labor legislation," he said and repressive assaults against the people's liberties are still being launched under these laws.

"There is still another point that requires emphasis," said Dennis. "Not every reduction in world tensions such as followed the Korean armistice and the Summit conferences automatically promotes a favorable change in internal relationships within the country. Positive developments internationally, while they engender numerous progressive opportunities in various countries, lead to favorable developments in a given country only when the key subjective factors play an influential role—only when the labor movement and its allies are able to utilize effectively such situations in the interests of their people."

THUS, in our country monopoly reaction will be definitely checked, said Dennis "when the multiplying trends and sentiments of the American people for peace, against McCarthyism and against the trusts are better organized and crystallized into a mighty democratic coalition, led by the healthiest labor forces which effectively begin to curb the powers of monopoly, of the atomaniacs."

"Undoubtedly," Dennis summed up, "considerable headway in this direction can be made by the popular forces during 1956."

AS THIS interview was to appear in the New Year's issue of The Worker, I asked the Commu-

nist leader to elaborate on his estimate of the prospects for 1956 and the election campaign.

"On the positive side," said Dennis, "it is fully possible to forge a democratic front mass movement and political combination powerful enough to elect an Administration and a Congress in '56 that certainly shall be more responsive to the will and needs of the people than were their immediate predecessors. It is feasible to organize sufficient mass pressure on Washington to ensure more fruitful negotiations between the East and West."

It is possible to make further progress in quarantining the McCarthyites and in restoring the First Amendment, he said. "It is realistic to envision the unfolding of a more influential and militant non-partisan mass movement capable of halting the lynchers and enforcing the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments in Mississippi and elsewhere."

It is also entirely practicable, he continued, to reinforce labor's unity of action and its cooperation with its democratic allies in joint struggles and in electoral alliances, and through these to safeguard their mass organizations and their rights. It is possible thereby to cope with the people's most urgent economic and social problems, "all of which shall be further aggravated by the vagaries of the economic barometer in the coming months."

"All this is attainable in 1956, and more," said Dennis. "How to achieve this—the concrete ways and means—deserves top priority in the thinking and activity of all progressives, especially of us Marxists."

"NEEDLESS to say," said Dennis smiling as he concluded, "I look forward eagerly to participating, together with my co-workers, in meeting this challenge."

And as the interview ended Dennis made a request. "I wish you would convey through The Worker to your readers," he said, "my warmest personal greetings and best wishes for the New Year—and to all my comrades and friends, especially to the valiant Smith Act and McCarran Act prisoners—'refugees' and 'deportees' and to their courageous families. I would also like to extend hearty salutations and a firm handshake to all other fighters for peace and progress."

Return of the Patriots

(Continued from Page 1)
torial board resume his post as editor-in-chief of this newspaper in a few days, who has worked the past ten months in a New York factory, youthful veteran of two wars said: "I suppose you can see the happiness in our faces." But yet, he continued, this joy is clouded by the fact that others of his colleagues are still behind bars, that Ben Davis is not here, that the membership indictment is still pending, the McCarran Act, and a few other things. Yet he expressed his confidence that the future will bring complete freedom, "which means more freedom for all of the American people."

Gates, with a shy, small, yet oddly engaging smile said that he was glad to return at a moment when the paper was in the midst of a circulation drive.

"I am sure," he concluded in his customary, matter-of-fact manner that you always associated with him years back, "that this drive will start our circulation upward again and you may be sure that I will do my part to see that the objectives of this drive are accomplished." So I remembered him, solid, unhurried, almost commonplace in ex-

pression when the lines had to be reformed on the Ebro after Franco's fascists had pushed down the coast to the sea.

DENNIS, in his quiet manner that is so much the man, spoke of Ben Davis' absence and that of others like Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Pettis Perry, Gus Hall, Bob Thompson. "There is much more to be said when one thinks back on how you felt in Atlanta or in West Street, and that is that you not only miss your friends and comrades, but brother, you miss the Daily Worker and The Worker."

A few words they were, but they carried a world of meaning: that today had Geneva back of it, as both men indicated, and though the time and occasion did not permit further elaboration, one got the distinct feeling that these prisoners, returned to their rightful orbit in American life, felt that the time had within it much more of promise than the dark days half a decade back. And that though you cannot expect roses to bloom in January much has happened in the affairs of mankind that should bring the nation greater cheer this holiday season than it has at any similar time in the past decade.

YOU LOOKED at them and you thought of many things. John Gates, editor-in-chief of

this newspaper, scarcely over 40 and already the veteran of two wars, child of the depression, alumnus of a federal penitentiary, and you made a quick mental calculation—two years and more in Spain, four years in World War II, five years in prison—a matter of 11 years of his four decades, away from family, from the pursuits of private life, engaged in a contest for the welfare of us all—to bring a life of unending peace and happiness to our nation.

Dennis, you remembered well, the Northwesterner, son of the workingclass, who saw the Seattle general strike as a child, who was a journeyman down the West Coast in his teens, studying the ideas of the Wobblies and then of the Marxists, and who came to his conclusion early: who led strikes in the valleys of California when most were still in the classrooms and who was torn by the police from a tree in Pershing Square, Los Angeles, which he had mounted to speak to the jobless on behalf of unemployment insurance as far back as March 6, 1930, some 25 years ago.

He has gone to prison for a year before the other Smith Act prisoners on contempt charges primarily because he challenged the legitimacy of John Rankin's tenure in Congress: the racist, he argued, was illegally elected because the majority of the state's population, the Negroes, were robbed of their right to the franchise.

TODAY millions in the land

were agreeing with the words that he expressed more than half a decade ago, for most of a nation begins to move against the Confederate-minded legislators like James O. Eastland who would nullify the decision of the Supreme Court to end segregation in the schools of our children.

You looked at them, and you saw incorruptible men, indestructible men, robbed of years of their freedom. And here they stood, their faces aglow, citizen-soldiers terribly happy to resume their place in the battle-line for all men's freedom.



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THE NEW McCARTHYITES

THE EMINENTLY respectable and, for our money, extremely conservative National Committee for an Effective Congress issued a statement last week in which it revealed anxiety concerning the resurgence of a new McCarthyism in our national life. The committee statement declared that a reactionary bi-partisan right-wing coalition of a definitely McCarthyite flavor was moving through the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee of Sen. Eastland (D-Miss) to stage a political comeback during 1956. The leaders of this right-wing cabal were identified by the committee as Senators Knowland (R-Cal), Bridges (R-NH), Jenner (R-Ind) and Eastland.

The Eastland subcommittee has scheduled stepped-up proceedings in its alleged inquiry into alleged "Communist infiltration of the press" which the NCEC recognizes as a mere front for an attack on the freedom of the entire press of the U. S., particularly on those newspapers and magazines which opposed McCarthy and McCarthyism. The New York Post has supplied evidence confirming this theory and has shown that the Eastland subcommittee has for its main target the New York Times and, as a secondary target, Time Magazine.

NCEC sees not only freedom of the press involved but other crucial areas of civil liberty. It noted that this reactionary coalition had already attacked such respectable institutions as the Fund for the Republic, and its head, Robert M. Hutchins, seeking through this attack to smear Paul G. Hoffman, former president of Studebaker Corporation, and Sen. Clifford Case (R-NJ). The latter two men are Republicans and supporters of the Eisenhower wing of that party. Thus the tactic of the Eastland-Knowland crowd is to wage war against all forces in American life, whether Democratic, Republican or liberal, which do not go along with their extreme pro-fascist and pro-war line.

THE NCEC attributes the new power and aggressiveness of the Eastland-Knowland cabal to the illness of President Eisenhower which this crowd has utilized, says NCEC, to advance its program.

We would suggest, however, that the real reason for whatever comeback this McCarthyite gang is making is due mainly to the failure of their victims to fight back. The New York Times, for instance, has not only refused to expose and attack the objectives of this conspiracy but has hastened to prove its "purity" by giving front page publicity to the Eastland subcommittee's lies about the Communist Party.

And the NCEC itself, while perceiving the real aims of the Eastland-Knowland conspiracy, implies that it would have no objections if the Eastland subcommittee confined its investigations to actual "Communist infiltration" of the press.

As the NCEC points out, there are reactionary forces in American life who want the 1956 election campaign fought out on the old "Red" issue rather than on the real issues confronting Americans, such as taxes, farm prices, electric power and school construction (and we would add, peace and civil rights).

If the Eastland-Knowland crowd should succeed in its efforts, as NCEC says, "to recreate an atmosphere of fear and suspicion" then indeed the elections of 1956 could be decided on false issues and our country's slow and painful march out of the marsh of McCarthyism to the higher ground of sanity in a post-Geneva world could be halted.

We think it makes good sense for the NCEC and other patriotic forces to sound the alarm against the resurgence of McCarthyism. We think the new AFL-CIO should be in the front line in exposing and attacking the plot of the Eastland-Knowland crowd. And we think the fight should be made not merely against the "excesses" of such witch-hunting committees but against the whole fabric of McCarthyite laws and procedures, such as the Smith Act, the McCarran Act, the McCarran-Walter Act, and the Subversive Activities Control Board, as well as against the basic lie on which all this is founded—the false theory that Communism is a "menace." And in this present day world, which the Geneva agreements have shown can be a peaceful world, we are confident that the people, so alerted, can triumph.

A Study in Contrasts

How Pope's Plea Was Greeted In Washington — and Moscow

By JOSEPH CLARK

IN STRIKING CONTRAST last week was the warm welcome Radio Moscow gave to the Christmas appeal of Pope Pius XII for banning atomic weapons and the cold foreboding with which it was received by President Eisenhower.

The Pontiff proposed three steps:

"Renunciation of experimentation with atomic weapons, renunciation of the use of such, and general control of armaments."

This was logical and in direct contradiction to the insistence of the Eisenhower Administration that an "aerial survey" plan must have priority over everything else. Not only must it have "priority" in the Administration proposal, but so far the Administration has rejected all plans for banning atomic bomb tests as well as the bombs themselves.

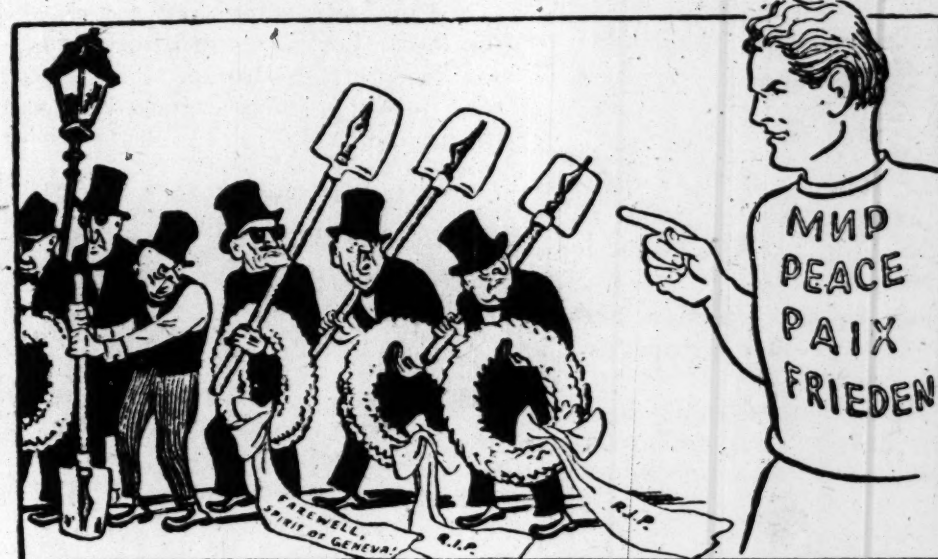
ACCORDING to a dispatch by Walter Kerr from Washington in the N. Y. Herald Tribune (Dec. 27) President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Dulles were worried about the Papal Christmas message. "Concern was expressed" that the public would be influenced by "his support for banning of further tests of 'nuclear weapons.'"

"The banning of such tests," says the Tribune story, "has long been an object of Soviet atomic policy and an object of suspicion by American policy makers."

The truth of the matter is that originally the proposal to ban atomic tests was made by William Randolph Hearst when he visited Moscow. It was also suggested by Prime Minister Nehru of India. Then it was endorsed by the Asia-Africa conference in Bandung last April. And finally on May 10, it was supported by the Soviet government and repeated in its proposals to the two Geneva conferences.

THIS WAS TRULY A WEEK for big contrasts. First the Administration announced it was increasing the military budget by a billion dollars. Then the Supreme Soviet decided to cut its military budget by 8.5 percent next year compared with 1955.

"The reduction in military appropriations," said Soviet finance minister Arseny Zverev, "means the Soviet Union, not only in



—From New Times

words but in deeds, shows its concern for lessening world tension and insuring peace and international security."

At a time when interest has been focussed on the school and housing shortages in our country the Soviet parliament decided on the most drastic increase of expenditures for housing, along with educational and cultural needs. Housing construction will rise 18 percent next year in the USSR.

The biggest rise in the entire Soviet budget as well as the biggest item of all is for education, public health, family welfare and social insurance. This item will take over 161 billion rubles, an increase of 15 billion rubles over last year. (The ruble is formally fixed at 25 cents but is about half that in purchasing value). The expenditure far surpasses the investment in heavy industry, agriculture, transportation and communications combined.

POSSIBLY the biggest contrast of the week was between the relaxing of tensions and the stubborn adherence by the Eisenhower Administration to a cold war foreign policy. This was pointed up in three highly significant statements — by Canadian foreign minister Lester B. Pearson, Sweden's for-

eign minister Osten Unden, and would-be French Premier Mendes-France.

Writing in the year-end issue of Look magazine Canada's friendly foreign minister warned that American foreign policy was not at all prepared to cope with "competitive co-existence." Pearson condemned the State Department's reliance on military might as a solution to diplomatic problems. Above all Pearson showed how unrealistic this policy was in the Far East where the U. S. continues to insist that Chiang Kai-shek is China. Pearson strongly urged the recognition of China and giving China its rightful seat in United Nations.

"No one seriously expects Chiang Kai-shek to return to the mainland," Pearson wrote. "Yet if we seem to support his ambitions, especially on Quemoy and Matsu, a situation is perpetuated that could conceivably develop into a war."

SWEDEN'S foreign minister also helped demolish a myth which capitalist press correspondents built up while covering the foreign ministers conference in Geneva. Day in and day out they cabled stories saying that Russian opposition to free elections in Ger-

(Continued on Page 12)

THE WEEK IN WORLD AFFAIRS

• Mendes-France Meets Duclos • Peace Talks in Malaya

IN A PUBLIC debate with Mendes-France, French Communist Party leader Jacques Duclos, urged a post-election popular front alliance to give the country a left government. Duclos noted that Mendes-France's Republican Front cannot possibly win a majority and the only way a left government can be established is through unity with the Communists. Elections are this Monday.

NEGOTIATIONS were started between the Malayan government and the Communist leaders of the guerilla movement which led the fight against Japanese occupation and for independence from Britain after the war. Talks got under way between 33-year-old Communist leader Chin Peng and Chief Minister of the Malayan federation Tengku Abdul Rahman.

PERFORMANCE of Porgy and Bess in Leningrad was the occasion for a rousing demonstration of American-Soviet friendship. At the opening performance Soviet spokesmen argued that the Star Spangled Banner

be played first and American representatives urged that the Soviet anthem come first. The Star Spangled Banner was given first.

THE WEST GERMAN government has appointed Dr. Wilhelm Haas as its first ambassador to Moscow. His name was submitted to the Soviet government.

THE SUPREME Soviet in Moscow heard Premier Bulganin and Communist Party leader Khrushchev report on their co-existence tour of India, Burma and Afghanistan.

THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST parties won a smashing victory in Indonesia's elections for a constituent assembly. The Nationalist Party and Communist Party increased their margin over the reactionary Masjumi party even compared with the parliamentary elections held in September. President Sukarno was urged to form a national front government.

THREE ARAB NATIONS opposed to the anti-Soviet Bag-

dad pact put their armed forces under a unified command. They include Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Syria. The government of Jordan was forced to promise that it would not join the Baghdad pact.

THE RUMANIAN Communist Party congress heard reports of the rapid industrialization of their country. General Secretary Gheorghiu-Dej hailed the recent easing of world tensions. Fraternal representatives were present from Communist Parties from all over the world. These included Gen. Chu Teh, the Vice Chairman of the Chinese government.

AN AGRICULTURAL delegation of the Rumanian Peoples Republic has just completed a highly successful tour of the U. S. Headed by deputy minister of agriculture V. Gligor the delegation made purchases of hybrid seed corn and farming equipment valued at half a million dollars.

NATIONAL elections have been promised in Greece on Feb. 26. Most political organizations have petitioned the government for amnesty for all anti-Nazi fighters and defenders of democracy imprisoned on concentration camp islands and other dungeons.

Make Good on Promises— UAW Urges 84th Congress

DETROIT.—Congress must act on civil rights and stop the runaround on this issue, the United Automobile Workers' Union declares in a hardhitting set of demands which are to be submitted to the opening of Congress. The UAW program of action is contained in a twenty-page brochure, issued to its one and a half million members.

"Let's make it clear we want ACTIONS, NOT WORDS, on civil rights," states the booklet, which is published in pocket size for convenient reference in meetings or when visiting legislators. In a work sheet of civil rights for 1956, the UAW asks for legislation which would:

1. Set up an effective Federal FEPC to prevent discrimination in employment.
2. Make Federal funds for education, housing, and welfare available only to those programs and projects that comply with Constitutional bars against segregation and other forms of discrimination.
3. Make lynching and other assaults by public officials or private citizens, acting either in concert or individually, on persons or property because of race, color, religion or national origin, a Federal crime.
4. Wipe out interference with the right to register or vote in primary or general Federal elections and abolish the poll-tax.
5. Create a Civil Rights Division within the Department of Justice, headed by an Assistant Attorney General, with authority to protect civil rights in all sections of the country.
6. Establish a permanent Federal Commission on Civil Rights

to make continuous appraisals and to recommend action with respect to civil rights problems.

7. Eliminate remaining segregation and other forms of discrimination in interstate travel.

8. Establish majority rule in the Senate and House of Representatives.

THE WORKSHEET on civil rights then equips its readers with the facts to show how civil rights have been sabotaged down through the years:

On FEPC the worksheet points out that since 1944 every session of Congress has had a set of FEPC bills before it, yet no FEPC bill has ever been allowed to come to the floor of the U. S. Senate for debate or vote. In the House no FEPC bill has ever been approved by the Rules Committee for floor debate and vote.

U. S. money for U. S. Standards demands the UAW AFL-CIO program.

The worksheet shows that Congress continues to pour millions of tax dollars into states that discriminate, pointing out that states like Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and others which have state laws prohibiting segregation are compelled to subsidize segregation in Southern states.

Security of the Person. The program says that nothing has been done by Congress to make lynching and other assaults by public officials or private citizens on persons a Federal crime. Legislation to make lynching a Federal crime was killed in filibuster in 1922, and anti-lynching legislation has been before Congress ever since that time, but has not been brought to a vote in the Senate. Anti-lynching legislation is urgent.

Right to Vote. Legislation to outlaw the poll tax has passed the House five times but has never come to a vote in the Senate.

Civil Rights Enforcement. Nothing has been done to create a Civil Rights Department in the Department of Justice with a special Assistant Attorney General to protest civil rights.

Other Civil Rights Measures. Anti-civil rights forces have blocked home rule for the District of Columbia for they fear the Negro vote in the District. In the case of Hawaii and Alaska, pro-filibuster forces in the Senate don't want four new Senators who probably would oppose the filibuster and favor civil rights.

Both the Republicans and Democratic parties have failed to keep their 1952 pledged to amend the McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act to remove the na-



tional origins quota system and other unjust and inhumane provisions.

THE WORK SHEET points out that while Democrats beg off in the name of "party unity" Republicans avoid the issue of civil rights for fear of jeopardizing their coalition with the Dixiecrats. The union declares that it seems members of Congress prefer no action on civil rights before the 1956 elections, so that both can contend civil rights were not an issue in the 84th Congress and therefore should not be an issue in the 1956 conventions and campaign.

WHAT THE PEOPLE NEED TO DO AND SAY

The UAW calls for roll calls on civil rights legislation early in the

coming session of the 84th Congress, so that candidates can be judged by the electorate.

They call upon their one and one-half million members to press Senators and Representatives to break the filibuster, if necessary by outstripping the filibusters. Get Congressmen to sign a discharge petition if necessary to bring civil rights bills to the floor. Write to President Eisenhower. Take it up everywhere, then write letters to the editors.

Shake well and repeat dosage at frequent intervals until it works, or until the polls close Nov. 6, 1956, it concludes with.

LETTER FROM MOSCOW



By ARCHIE JOHNSTONE
MOSCOW.

I.K.—If you're busy, I'll go and help Natasha in the kitchen. . . . What is it you're writing?

A.J.—I'm just starting a New Year "letter from Moscow."

I.K.—Oh, please send "the boys" my love and best wishes. . . . But of course you couldn't—

A.J.—Why not?

I.K.—Well, you couldn't just say, "Love and best wishes from Ira" out of thin air. I was only joking.

A.J.—So you don't want to send any greetings?

I.K.—You know I'd love to, but—but you keep on scribbling. I'm holding up your work.

A.J.—Far from it; I'm taking down what you're saying. "A chiel's among you takin' notes, and, faith, he'll prent it." So come on Ira, let's have your New Year message to "the boys."

I.K.—Who?—Me?

A.J.—Yes.—You.

I.K.—But who am I to—

A.J.—Yes, that's a good start. Who are you? Is it correct to say that you are Ira Karlova, patronymic Timofeyevna? . . . And that you are a student of English at the Moscow Institute of Foreign Languages? . . . And your age, please?

I.K.—Nineteen. But, really, Uncle Archie—

A.J.—And have you two heads,

or dementia praecox, or a cleft palate, or—let me finish, please or anything untypical, anything that prevents or excuses you from speaking as a spokesman of Soviet youth? Can it not be said that Ira (pronounced Era) speaks for the New Era?

I.K.—You mean to say you're interviewing me? You can't do that.

V of D (entering with tea-tray). Don't bully the poor girl, Archie. And Ira, you'd better humor him. It's the only way.

I.K.—I know it is. You humor him all the time, Aunt Natasha, and yet he has the nerve to write about you as the "Voice of Discipline." Let him put that down in his notes.

V of D—Why not send your greetings, Ira? Forget about us here. Imagine you were on the phone or "on the air" to America and Britain, and speak directly to your audience about whatever is uppermost in your mind.

I.K.—Dear friends: This won't make any sense unless I explain that I am one of a little company of friends, all students of English, who come round here on Sunday afternoons to "practice our English on the Johnstones." We always ask "How are 'the boys' getting on?" and when I explain what that means you'll know what's "uppermost in my mind" just now.

"The boys" is your correspondent's name (and it's our name, too, now) for his colleagues and friends in America and England whose job is to keep various progressive newspapers and periodicals "alive and kicking." I love the name "the boys" because it is so like the Russian "molodyets" which can mean both "boy" and "Atta-boy!" But I notice that "the boys" in charge of the fighting-fund campaigns in the "Daily

Worker" include many women. Molodyets!

Can you believe that this whole business of pleading for funds and new subscribers and especially this selling of nick-nacks at "bazaars," as you call them, is almost incredible to my friends and myself? There is nothing the slightest bit like it here, although, of course, "Pravda" in its early struggling days makes some comparison. With you it seems that the more worthwhile and really dignified your paper is, the more undignified—Oh help!

A.K.—What's the trouble, Ira?

I.K.—Doesn't that "undignified" sound terribly nineteen-



year-oldish? Will they really understand that I really understand how absolutely necessary these appeals and bazaars and things are?

V of D: Don't worry, Ira; you're doing fine. But take your time—and drink your tea.

I.K.: I'm frightened I'll lose the thread. Where was I? Oh, yes . . . Dear friends: What I'm trying to say is that it's disgraceful that all the really worthwhile publications, and only the

really worth-while publications have this struggle to make ends meet.

This business of "passing round the hat" is so strange to us that one of our most famous poets, Alexei Surkov, wrote a poem about it after a visit to England a few years ago—

A.J.: There's an English translation of it by Peggy Wettlin. I'll dig it out and you "read into the record" a verse of it.

I.K.: Here's the first of the six verses:

Of many a custom the Britons may boast

Dating from times that are hoary,

But of all of their customs there's one I like most,

It's the working man's pride and his glory:

If a fellow is suddenly taken ill,

If a family's turned out of their flat,

Fellow-workers in factory or mine or mill

Pass round the hat

Pass round the hat

If we "passed round the hat" here for your fighting funds,

what a response there would be! But your correspondent tells me that that would probably raise

howls about "Moscow gold." Then, how can anyone like me help? Would it be any encouragement to you in your struggle to know how highly people like myself think of you — and how humble we feel the risk of

prison or deportation or denationalization that many of you face when we think of the way you overcome unfair handicaps?

I'll try to explain.

V. of D.: It isn't all wrong. What's the trouble, Ira?

I.K.—I was going to remind them that in other countries they have the respect and honor and gratitude of millions of people and that "a prophet is not without honor, save in his own

country." But who am I to speak like that to people who probably were in the political struggle before I was born?

A.J.—So it's the old "Who-am-I?" trouble, Ira? These old campaigners know more about you than you do yourself: you're a spokesman, whether you like it or not. And, if you feel like giving them another quotation about prophets from the same source, how about reading a bit of this into the record?

I.K.—Dear friends: "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely. . . . For so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

Every week I read "Words That Will Live" in the New York "Worker," words by "prophets" like Lincoln and Jefferson and Walt Whitman, words so living that they could have been written today about today. But new "words that will live" are being written today and everyday in the struggling progressive publications which you—"the boys"—edit, or write for, or sell at street corners before you go to work, or support by canvassing for new readers, or by making things for bazaars or by "passing round the hat."

Thanks to you and people like you all over the world, the year 1955 was, in my humble 19-years-old opinion, the best year that has even been. Please go on giving life—and "circulation"—to new "words that will live," words that will "speak the truth and shame the devil," words that will fight and win even greater victories in 1956. And—

My love to the boys,
Ira Karlova
(Ira Karlov)

People in Illinois Ghost Towns Seek Economic Aid

By CARL HIRSCH

WEST FRANKFORT, ILL.

IT WILL be a strange New Year's Eve here in West Frankfort, Ill. Coal miners and their families, farm folk, jobless youth, pensioners, destitute shopkeepers, wives and children wracked by poverty—by the thousands, they come here with their problems and their hopes and their demands.

On December 31, the crisis-stricken people of 15 Illinois counties have been asked to come to the West Frankfort high school gym.

Their congressman, youthful Rep. Kenneth Gray, has called these people together to seek a common program which may alleviate the economic crisis which has gripped Southern Illinois through the bad years of this last quarter-century—and the so-called good ones.

"We have a choice of continuing our economic decline," said Rep. Gray, "or rallying behind a move to force national attention on our economic plight in the hope of receiving some much-needed assistance."

In this town these days, there is little activity but that of the cold wind buffing the paintless houses of West Frankfort, scattering the stubble of an unprofitable corn crop, whistling through the superstructures of mines long unused.

THIS is the hub of an area where 30,000 people wait in line each month for a ration of government surplus food. Despite a yearly exodus of thousands, there are still a quarter-million people in this chronically "sick" area covering one-seventh of the state.

Here may be found the juncture of the farm crisis and the crisis which holds dozens of so-called depressed industrial areas across the U. S. in a stubborn grasp.

Southern Illinois farmers are among the most critically affected of the Midwest farmers whose income has declined steadily through the past six years.

This region is called "Little Egypt" because early settlers thought its bottomland at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers must be something like the delta of the Nile.

But these are strange times in our economy when fertility and abundance appear as the farmers' greatest evil, and when these rich

Distressed Areas

From Illinois Carl Hirsch sends us a graphic picture of one of the many areas where, despite high level national production, there is poverty and want. We hope in forthcoming issues to have articles on other distressed areas.

coal veins are "unprofitable" to mine.

Among the non-farm families of this area, possibly a third are without regular employment. Many live poorly on miner's pensions, unemployment compensation, the charity of relatives, the relief rolls.

THE LATE official state figures show that 144 out of every 1,000 persons in Pulaski County are on the public assistance rolls. And the average is about 10 percent on relief throughout these 15 counties.

As everywhere across America, this area suffered through the depression of the 30's. However, the 40's were hardly any better. Southern Illinois evaded every "boom," and even World War II did not bring a high level of prosperity to this region. On the contrary, the war years marked the beginning of a sharp decline in coal mining, a decline which has only become steeper year by year.

From a one-time high point of 100,000 coal miners in Illinois during the 20's, there are today less than 12,000 at work—and most of these only scratching out a bare living with one or two days work each week.

Over the past few years, Southern Illinois has sunk deeper into despair, its people crying out occasionally for some answer which they did not see too clearly themselves.

Abortive attempts have been made to attract new industry, and even the hard-pressed people in towns like West Frankfort contributed funds to public relations schemes for drawing industrial plants to the area.

THE UNITED Mine Workers has made a few futile efforts at



restoring the once-dominant position of coal as against other competing fuels. However, the UMWA has also backed portions of a legislative program which could provide genuine aid for this region.

It is such a program, in addition to the demands of the farmers for full parity, which has kindled a new spirit in people here who have been beaten down by these years of bitter struggle for survival.

Rep. Gray, a freshman Democrat, has aroused them as never before in his call for a great "public forum" to be held in the last hours of the year.

"Come to West Frankfort!" is the call going out to the countryside, to towns like Mount Vernon, Cairo, Herrin, Carbondale, Harrisburg, Centralia. People are being asked to come in cars, trucks, buses, in caravans decorated with identifying placards and slogans.

"This is our only hope," declared Rep. Gray's call, in urging that the people of this area formulate their demands in such a dramatic way that the meaning and the urgency will not be lost on the Congress which reconvenes next

month. Rep. Gray has called this a non-partisan demonstration and urged all citizens to attend regardless of political affiliation. However, there can be little doubt that this rally will wind up as a thundering condemnation of the Eisenhower administration and its callous disregard for the neediest among the people.

AT A MOMENT when the Republicans are boasting of a year of the most fabulous profit-taking as evidence of "prosperity," the people of Southern Illinois will sound a jarring note of dissent.

Farmers here will be recalling the 1952 Eisenhower broken campaign promise of full parity. They will bring with them from their farm counties the grim story of shrinking income, of farm families squeezed out and driven off the land by bankruptcy.

Coal miners will be asking why the administration sabotaged the promising U. S. synthetic-fuel research program just as it was beginning to find the way to convert soft coal into liquid fuel at a cost

competitive with that of natural crude oil.

They will be raising the demand for national policy on fuels based not on favoritism to the powerful oil and natural gas interests but on the needs of the nation, the consumers and the workers in the fuel

industries.

And this great rally will be wanting to know what has happened to the federal "depressed areas" program about which the administration has done nothing but a lot of talking. That program so far has had the support in Congress only of Democratic Sen. Paul Douglas, Rep. Gray and a group of congressmen from other similarly stricken areas in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New England.

Much as the administration tries to ignore it, Southern Illinois and other such crisis-gripped areas are worrisome spectres at the corporate profit feast of 1955. This New Year's Eve in West Frankfort, Illinois, the plea to "ring out the old" comes with anxiety and distress from families who have waited too long for even a crumb of "prosperity."

'I Wanted to Speak for Those Children—and to Them—'

By ROOSEVELT WARD, Jr.

Arthur Miller, Pulitzer prize-winning author of "Death of a Salesman," "All My Sons," "Crucible," and the current Broadway hit, "A View From the Bridge," issued an eloquent reply to the New York City Youth Board which shelved production of his film-script on juvenile delinquency. Miller rebuked the Board members who voted to overrule its own subcommittee's suggestion that the film be produced, and challenged them to let "fanciness . . . take its club in hand and write what it has destroyed."

The Youth Board had voted 11-9 to drop production of the film after Miller was accused by The American Legion, Catholic War Veterans and super red-baiters, Aware, Inc., of being "subversive."

The Youth Board, a city agency, had set up a subcommittee to "investigate" the charges against Miller. After meeting with Miller the subcommittee voted 5-1 to recommend that the film, slated for production by Combined Artists be produced. The Youth Board was to receive 5 percent of the profits from the full-length movie to be shown all over the nation.

Through Justice Nathaniel Kaplan, its chairman, the Youth Board indicated that Miller had



denied allegations of the red-baiters in a written letter to the Board also in meeting with the subcommittee. Kaplan held that the Youth Board, however, did not wish to get in a "controversy" over Miller's "left-wing connections and associations."

THE AMERICAN Civil Liberties protested the decision of the Board and stated:

"... It is a disgrace to the City of New York that an agency such as the Youth Board will yield its obligation to stand firmly for the principle of freedom of expression in order to quiet any

pressure group that raised its voice."

In his statement Miller said: "I have much to say; for the moment I will only say this."

"I salute the minority members of the Youth Board, not only for their courage in a tough moment but for their devotion to the youth of this city which their vote dramatizes. I salute the street workers of the Youth Board who, without commissioners, limousines, and at miserable pay are taking their lives in their hands and working for as long as 30 hours at a stretch in the rain and the snow, in the day and the night, striving to open the minds of this city's kids to a glimmer of humane values."

"My hope was to show this process in this film, to show how a boy is saved and how ten thousand more might be saved."

"I salute above all the boys and girls themselves, the legions of bewildered kids roaming the avenues of the world's wealthiest city, looking for a little human warmth, a hope in life, a symbol of some kind in which they might believe and through that belief reconstruct their broken hearts and shattered souls."

"I had wanted to speak for these children and to them. I had wanted to raise up into the light of day the wondrous creativity that lies imprisoned in their frustrated and furious minds. I wanted to turn the face of this city into the mirror

which is its youth so that more people might feel the reality that when a boy kills a boy, in truth our great buildings shake and on the hands of every man and woman living here there is a spot of blood."

"I had hoped, in short, to tell the truth, the unvarnished facts about delinquency, the facts seen and the facts unseeable. I had hoped to make not merely a drama but a civilized work of art."

"The majority of the Youth Board has now decided that this picture shall not be made. So be it. Now let us see whether fanaticism can do what it never could do in the history of the world, let it perform a creative act, let it take its club in hand and write what it has just destroyed."

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

NEW YORK

Dear Editor:

The exclusive story, datelined Corfu, which appeared in the WORKER, gave your readers the brutal facts concerning the desperate plight of the Greek political prisoners.

The Greek Government's policy of physical extermination of political opponents must be foiled. The plea of the imprisoned patriots for help from their friends abroad must be answered.

A financial contribution will do more than purchase the food,



clothing and medicine which the political prisoners must be supplied with if they are to survive. It will add immeasurably to the strength of the growing forces who are determined that the political prisons and concentration camps of Greece shall close, and the Greek patriots shall win the honorable freedom for which they stand ready to give their lives.

Contributions should be sent to:

Council of Greek Americans
257 Seventh Avenue
New York City.

TV Views

By BEN LEVINE

Miracle Plays

"I SAW a miracle on 34th Street," said Judith, my wife. "Are they showing that movie again?" I asked.

"No," she said, "it was real. I saw a big arrow on the Gimbel building and below it a sign said, this way to Macy's."

What, I wondered, are we coming to? Is big business becoming big hearted? Has a corporation acquired a soul? Are cash registers singing Christmas carols? Is the lion lying down with the lamb, and is *Gimbel lying down with Macy's*?

But I learned in a few days that God was still only in Heaven and all was right with the world of private enterprise. The Macy building also had an arrow on it, and the sign underneath said, this way to Gimbel's. The stores were still battling it out, and they were hurling the Christmas Spirit at each other, they were pouring coals of fire.

And when the 20th Century-Fox Hour on a recent Wednesday night at 10 on Channel 2 recreated for video the highly successful movie, "The Miracle on 34th Street," I realized where the idea was born. In this movie the well-tried theme of a child's faith in Santa Claus is modernized by placing the action in the Macy store. In one absorbing scene, the store Santa, played originally by Monte Wolley and undertaken with almost equally good results on TV by Thomas Mitchell, directs customers to other retail establishments when Macy's hasn't the toys they want.

To everybody's surprise, this increases the Macy prestige and the Macy business.

Since this movie was first shown, the years have passed, the lesson has sunk in, and now, while the Herald Square angels sing, the Herald Square stores shoot it out with arrows.

20TH CENTURY-FOX has often made good choices for its Wednesday night revivals on TV. One such revival I enjoyed particularly was Sidney Howard's "The Late Christopher Beane," a pleasant yet sharp satire of capitalist greed.

"The Miracle on 34th Street" worked the other side of the street, and was in general of, by and for the merchants, though it seemed at first to have the spirit of Dickens' "Christmas Carol."

Susan Walker, its little heroine, is deprived by her "modern" mother of a belief in Santa Claus, and this is something that no money can buy. Mrs. Walker, a widow with an executive job at Macy, has plenty of mere money but no romance in her cold scientific heart until Santa Claus, drawn by Macy's from a Home for the Aged, assumes the role of Cupid.

The curtain comes down on a glorious fireworks of faith, as a new father and a new completely furnished suburban cottage reward Susan for her faith in Santa.

A week later, Studio One presented its miracle play, called "Miracle at Potter's Farm," in which Bruce, a five-year old lad and one of five orphans on a farm, gets chickens and a cow and a tractor and the makings of a handsome fortune out of his faith in God.

My little son, Martin, was not impressed. "What do you expect," he asked, "from a seab program?" He was referring to the fact that Studio One is sponsored by Westinghouse.

BY THE TIME this column is published we will be in that week between Christmas and New Year's in which we learn that Santa, with the kindest in-

tentions, has not penetrated into the recesses of our desires and is even hazy about our physical measurements. The gloves our faith has brought us are too small, the shirts too large, the radio too quiet, the ties too loud.

The warm smiles between merchants and customers fade into polite hostility in the exchange departments.

In that hangover atmosphere, the Christmas miracle stories come to have a more profane meaning.

There is the court scene from "The Miracle on 34th Street," for example, in which an attempt is made to have Santa Claus committed to a mental institution. The forces of evil are trying to get a judicial ruling that Santa doesn't exist. The judge is about to comply, when the politician takes him aside and warns him of the consequences. If the children learn the truth, as officially announced from the bench, the holiday business will come toppling down. The merchants' anger will sweep the judge out of office.

The judge gathers his judicial robes about him and proclaims that the American way is to be broad-minded and hear all the evidence, immaterial, anti-material or plain sentimental.

LITTLE SUSAN'S faith saves the multi-million dollar Christmas trade. This is a fairy tale of course, but it is a tale symbolic of capitalism's greatest glory, the Credit System.

"Public credit," wrote Karl Marx in Capital, "becomes the credo of the capitalist system. And with the rise of national debt-making, want of faith in the national debt takes the place of the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, which may not be forgiven."

Billions of dollars of installment sales are built on the faith of the parents of our little Susans. And even bigger war contracts, and a public debt approaching 300 billion dollars are rising on the shaky foundations of headlined fables. King Prosperity is swelling like a gaudy holiday balloon.

But every added puff increases the danger. "Let's sit upon the ground," as Shakespeare says, and consider that it may take only "a little pin—and no more King."

THE THEATRE

A Mid-Season Look at B'way (and Off)

By HARRY RAYMOND

ON NEW YEAR'S day the theatre in New York arrives at its mid-season phase. Twenty-three shows have made their bows on Broadway and an equal number of attractions have made their debuts in the small non-commercial off-Broadway houses since the season officially opened in September. Although the quantity of productions has been lower than during the past few seasons, there has been a decided improvement in quality.

It has been a happy season so far, for the bulk of the plays in the hit category which are currently stirring theatre audiences are plays displaying high artistic standards and they have something important to say about the world in which we live.

The season opened last fall with two important left-overs from last season, "Inherit the Wind," a fine drama about the Scopes evolution trial with Paul Muni at the National, and "Bus Stop," a good light comedy at the Music Box.

THE QUALITY of theatre

The Current Scene

At Home with Diego Rivera, Great Mexican, Great Artist

By HOWARD FAST

IT WAS at the home of Diego Rivera, a year and a half ago, that I saw a color reproduction of his famous peace mural, that tribute to the struggle of mankind today to do away



with war. He told me the story of the fierce efforts to repress it once it was finished, to hide it from the sight of people, to prevent its showing at an exhibition in Paris, and finally how it had disappeared while being shipped to Poland. He was not angry; he seemed to have come beyond anger, and he spoke of this in the same tone that he spoke of his unfinished sculptures at the great sports stadium of the University of Mexico—once again the resentment of rising reaction against a man who by the simple act of painting defied them and challenged them.

The old man was too much for them; he was all over Mexico and he was a part of Mexico. They had asked him to make a mural in the Prado, the luxury hotel of Mexico City, and when he painted, as always in his murals, his anger against superstition and tyranny, they covered over his painting with a huge screen, afraid to destroy it and afraid to let the wealthy Americans who patronized the Prado see it. But himself, they were in awe of, they could not screen him off.

I was grateful that I had seen him, been with him, embraced him, and that my children had seen him. I want to remember him always the way he was with my children, and if he is composed of so many other things, as what man is not, it is still the simplicity of him and the strange purity that is most important.

HIS PLACE in the world of art is another matter. The strange, beautiful, tortured land of Mexico—where it is spoken as a national proverb, withal



Diego Rivera shown chatting with models while plaster, on which he is painting a mural, dries.

regretfully, that they are too far from God and too close to the United States—has given rise to more artists of great stature than any other land in the modern world. From there came the immortal Jose Clemente Orozco, and there too, along with Rivera, lives and paints the brilliant David Alfaro Siqueiros, not to mention a dozen others whose color and talent are seen everywhere. Where else in a generation have we seen three like Orozco, Rivera and Siqueiros—working and living contemporaneously.

All are the land and the people, but to me Rivera is something more. He is uniquely the teacher. He takes his people by their hands and leads them. He says to them:

"Come with me, and I will show you the best thing that men and women can see, a picture of yourselves at those moments when you were one with all mankind. Come with me, and I will also open a window to the future. I will show you what simple people can be, when they know freedom and welcome it."

AND WHILE thousands of words have been written on what it means for an artist to go to the people, and paint for them,

those artists who, like Rivera, follow this injunction, do so not by an examination of their art but by a connection with the lives and struggles of the people. I have heard his murals called "picture writing," almost as an expression of disdain; and it is true that they are a form of picture writing, sending their message to millions who cannot read or write; but what magnificent picture-writing they are, and what a splendid message they send.

It is up to others to write critically of Diego Rivera's art; for myself, I hesitate before superlatives in art, and I do not know if ever there is an artist—or writer either—who can be called the greatest in anything. Greatness is of a time, a place, a moment, a historical situation; and no artist is ever great in a vacuum, but only within a particular vortex of struggle and hope. To me, Rivera's greatness lies in the fact that he is, with his weapons of mural and fresco, one of the clearest and boldest spokesmen of the colonial peoples, of all people struggling against imperialism for national independence.

In magnificent form and color, with the highest fidelity to the demands—the stern and unremitt-

(Continued on Page 14)



O'CASEY

British actor Michael Redgrave at the Helen Hayes Theatre, and "The Lark," Lillian Hellman's adaptation of Jean Anouilh's beautiful play about Joan of Arc with Julie Harris and Boris Karloff at the Longacre.

These are plays generally considered as "non-commercial" by the average Broadway producer. Yet they have been a financial as well as an artistic success and continue to fill the theatres in which they are playing.

Notable among the mid-season events was the opening Dec. 28 at the Booth of the first New York production of Sean O'Casey's great play about Dublin transport workers, "Red Roses for Me." To producer Gordon W. Pollock, heretofore noted chiefly for his success with light comedy, goes the credit for breaking the long Broadway boycott of O'Casey.

"Red Roses for Me," a drama dealing with the 1913 Dublin transport strike, was first played in the Abbey Theatre in 1943. It was later produced in London and was acted in Boston by the Tributary Theatre group in the mid-forties. Now for the

first time since "Within the Gates" was played here in 1935 theatre-goers have an opportunity to see one of O'Casey's finest full-length dramas on Broadway.

THE CITY CENTER, long a dependable house of music and drama, has done its bit, too, in raising the artistic level of the theatre this season with its staging of "Othello" and "Henry IV, Part 1," a thrilling series of grand operas and a beautiful ballet series. The Orson Welles Repertory Co. will open the City Center's new drama series Jan. 10 with a production of "King Lear."

Among the notable importations, the extra shows which came in for limited engagements, were the D'Oyly Carte Opera Co., the remarkable Comedie Francaise and the great French mime Marcel Marceau with his one-man show.

The off-Broadway sector has been especially alive with good theatre. Marceau started his American tour at the 1,200-seat Phoenix Theatre, largest of the off-Broadway houses. The Phoenix then came through with

(Continued on Page 10)

A Reminiscence

How the Great Drought Came To Nome New Year's Eve, 1917

By ART SHIELDS

THE BOARD of Trade Saloon was crowded with miners, who had munched through the snow. They had come together that night for a last cup of cheer. For Nome was going dry when the bells rang in the New Year.

This was back, far back, on December 31, 1917. I had come to Nome just before the ice hemmed the Alaska coast in. And the winter that followed was the turning point in my life.

Nome was the capital of America's Arctic frontier. It had been built on the beach in the gold rush of '98, with its back to the frozen tundra and its face to the frozen sea.

Arctic hearts are warm, however. And I made many friends among the gold miners, who had come to Nome from the ends of the earth. They had plenty of time for friendship, for there is little work in the Alaska winter. And they taught me many things about the workers' struggle for freedom, which I shall never forget.

I used to meet my friends in the AFL's Mine, Mill hall by day, and in their cabins at night. And the hours went fast as they talked of sweethearts back home, of battles they had won from the boss, of hair-breadth escapes of many kinds, of books like Jack London's "Iron Heel," and of Big Bill Haywood and Gene Debs, and the people's uprising across Bering Sea.

THE RUSSIAN Revolution was joyfully welcomed by most of Nome's miners. And I remember the happiness of the friend, who first gave me the news. He was a Socialist Scot from Halifax, Canada. And he rushed out of the office of "The Industrial Worker," the miners' daily paper, as I was passing by one afternoon in early November, and pulled me in. "They've won, Shields, they've won," he was shouting as he took me to a bulletin board ringed by excited men. They were reading a radiogram saying that Kerensky had fled.

"The Industrial Worker" had been preparing the miners for this victory for weeks. It was a brilliant, fighting paper that the Mine, Mill union had started 10 years before. And it was worth every penny of the 25 cents that each issue cost.

THE BOARD of Trade Saloon had not been filled for years. It was much too big for the Nome of 1917. It had been built at the crest of the gold rush in 1900, when 30,000 men were panning the sands of the beach, and the mud of the creeks behind Nome. But Nome had gone down. It now had only 2,000 folks in summer, and a bare 1,000 in winter. And the big saloon usually had the same dismal effect upon me that a big auditorium gives when only a handful of people are present.

But this New Year's Eve I saw strange dog teams curled in the snow outside the saloon. And the place was jammed with hundreds of men who had come from near and far.

A DOZEN or more nationalities were celebrating together. Here was Yukon Charley, a tall young Eskimo from the upper Kobuk River, who had come to Nome to get a divorce. With him was Duffy O'Connor, a militant Irishman, who fought for the rights of his in-laws so well—he had married an Eskimo woman.

And here was Leonard Sep-



pala, the champion, dog racer, who numbered Lapps, Norsemen, Swedes and Finns among his forebears. Alongside me was Ole Olson, a ruddy young giant from Norway, who had been a champion weight lifter in his home land. And here were Tom and Martin, two Danish mine partners, who used to keep me overnight in their cabin, eight miles from Nome. And Billy Stipek, the Pole, who used to run for mayor on the Socialist ticket, and Milt, the Halifax Scot. And several Russians, and a host of Americans and other good men.

Half the crowd was banked three-deep round the bar, where the boss was selling two shots of Canadian Club for two bits. He didn't dream of the prices the bootleggers would get, so he unloaded the stuff cheap.

The rest were grouped around the best singer in town in the rear of the saloon. The artist was my friend Morris Pascoff, the village tailor, who had come from Russia several years before.

MORRIS was a lusty young fellow, with a fine tenor voice, who starred at many miners' affairs. The Bolsheviks were his heroes, and he would never sing any of the Tin Pan Alley war songs that were helping President Wilson's crusade. So he shook his head when one of the merchants asked him to sing "Over There." He sang "Solidarity" instead to the joy of the miners, who joined in the chorus. Then Morris sang a love song

that brought tears to the eyes of lonely men. We got "Hold the Fort" next. Then another love song, with a Joe Hill ballad after it, and another song, and then he quit for the next amateur bit.

Two old English miners then took the floor. They had been windjammer sailors in the old days. And they began singing a two-part ballad about a drunken skipper, when the bells began ringing the New Year. And the clock began striking midnight from its spot high up on the wall.

The gong of doomsday could not have chilled us any more. But we were saved in a flash. My friend Tom had mounted a chair and turned the clock back. "It's still 1917," he cried, as the hand swung back to "8." "And Nome isn't dry yet," an American shouted as he rushed for the bar.

THE REST of the night is somewhat blurred. But I vaguely recall the coldness that greeted the old mayor, when he climbed the bar unsteadily to make a hiccupping speech. He was saying that "We're all Alaskan 'tillicums' (pals) together." But the salve didn't stick. He was the attorney for the big Pioneer Mining Co. And he was then asking the court to upset the territory's 8-hour law, that had been passed at a referendum, with 84 per cent of the votes on the 8-hour line.

The mayor wasn't too drunk to feel the deep freeze. And he



A chat with the reader



Remembering Italy

WE HAD intended to devote this column to our New Year's resolutions but unfortunately for that intention our sports editor, Lester Rodney, wandered into our sanctum and reminded us that on Jan. 9 he will fly from this country to Cortina d'Ampezzo to cover the international sports event scheduled for that idyllic spot about the middle of the month. Lester had hardly finished before the Business Office summoned us for the annual Christmas office party, the one day of the year in which those genial people pay for our lunch without requiring us to sign an IOU.

Under the circumstances it seemed somehow inappropriate to burden our readers with our sense of guilt—for what else are New Year's resolutions but a confession of past sins? And we found it was amazingly pleasant to ponder—chew the cud is a less elegant but more accurate phrase for it—over the pleasures we enjoyed in Italy during the wonderful summer of 1930.

DURING that summer, as a student exile in Italy, we lived in a pleasant apartment atop of the building at 54 St. George street (Cinquante Quarte San Giorgio) from which we could survey the river Arno, the Pitti Palace, the Ponte Vecchio, and the inevitable Duomo, Florence's beautiful cathedral, and most beautiful of all, Giotto's campanile. If one turned his head handsome he could see a park in which another David of Michael Angelo looked across the Arno at his counterpart in the square before the Palazzo Vecchio.

Later there was a trip to Venice where we lodged in a small hotel named for the Britisher, John Ruskin, and our most celebrated fellow lodger was Ezra Pound who struck us, even then, before we were aware of his liking for Italian fascism, as an extremely disagreeable fellow who complained vocally that his soft-boiled eggs were served without the shell. In our laundry we received a memento of that encounter, an undershirt with Ezra's name embroidered at the neck, and we would have kept it for a conversation piece

soon retreated to a more select den, where a few gold operators and lawyers—who called themselves "the best people of Nome"—got together. And the miners went on with their Happy New Year.

There were stirring Alaska days later, as men went on strike for the 8-hour day, which the court quickly upset. But as the old year is dying again I keep thinking of that Happy Alaska New Year.

except for our own lack of undershirts which compelled us to wear it out as if it were merely an ordinary undershirt.

THE TRIP to Cortina d'Ampezzo, where Lester will be, was unforgettable. There are few spots around this globe which for sheer beauty can compete with this spot in the Italian Dolomite mountains. For the first day we tried mountain climbing with our friends. But whatever the joys of dangling from a rope over a chasm a thousand feet deep, they were not for us. We hastily wrote out our resignation and retired to our apartment on the second floor of a bakery. The aromas arising from the baker's oven were delicious and we had, in addition, a copy of the five-marks (25 cent) Tauchnitz edition of H.G. Wells romance (Christina Alberta's Father) which compensated for any disappointment we might have felt for our failure to have scaled Old Chimney Rock.

The next day when our friends again departed for the mountains we found a cafe patronized by the chauffeurs of the wealthy who in turn patronized the big hotels in Cortina. There were games of chess in every corner and boisterous conversations everywhere. The pretty waitresses whose charms impressed us were more impressed by the charms of a handsome chauffeur from North Africa than they were by ours.

CORTINA during the winter is undoubtedly different from the Cortina we knew in late August but we will wager that the beauties which Lester will



see are not too different from those which made the name of the place unforgettable for us. The grass on the meadows instead of being green will be whitened with snow but there will be sunshine and clean, fresh air, just as it was when we were there 25 years ago.

And the people, the glorious Italian people will also be the same.

For we can never forget them. Even though Mussolini ruled with his iron fist during those days we were in Italy, the people were defiant and proud. We will never forget the Italian fishmonger who chatted with us in Cascine at Firenze or the boatmen at Venezia, or the jack-of-all-trades on the island of Capri.

NORMAN DOUGLAS, the novelist, was there, too, but surrounded as he was by beautiful young women, we merely watched him from afar with interest and, if we must be frank, with envy.

At any rate we love Italy and we are sure that our sports editor will too. Sometimes we dream of the day when a socialist U. S. will send us as emissary, with our four children to Rome. And then we shall spend winter weeks, like Lester, in the snow-capped Dolomites.

—R.F.H.



Illustration for month of January

Book Review

A Book for Every Day of the Year

THE PEOPLE'S ALMANAC, compiled by Elizabeth Lawson. Introduction by Rob F. Hall. New Century Publishers. 50 cents.

Reviewed by BEN LEVINE

What's in a date? That which we call an historic event, by any other date would be just as great. But a date can play an important role in history. There was Feb. 22, Washington's birthday. The French revolution of 1848 began on that day, for that was the day the King tried to ban banquets called in Paris to celebrate the anniversary of the man who was honored throughout the world as the foe of tyrants.

This is one example of many in which the memory of one date set off a struggle that gives birth to another red letter day.

Among the characteristics that mark human beings off from animals is the length of their memory. Each man has his individual almanac, his birthday, his school graduation, his first strike, his marriage. Each nation has its national almanac. And the world has its world almanac. "The earth," says Pericles, "is the tomb of famous men."

I have just read through a lively little almanac issued by New Century Publishers. It is called "The People's Almanac," and it contains "important dates and events in the history of the struggles of the people of the United States."

This almanac was compiled by Elizabeth Lawson, and was published monthly in The Worker during 1955. Readers of The Worker will welcome this permanent record.

I can guess that with Miss Lawson's wide knowledge of American history—for many of us have learned much about the history of the Negro people, the anti-slavery struggle and American history in general from pamphlets that she filled with facts every worker should know—with this wide knowledge of history, Miss Lawson must have had a bewildering time of it to make her selection fit into the 64 pages allotted to her. In fact she could well have followed the example of Benjamin Franklin and called her opus "Poor Elizabeth's Almanac," thus describing her plight and warning the reader that the items chosen must of necessity be subject to one person's taste.

Yet this taste is that of a woman who has given a lifetime

not only to the study of American history but to helping shape the American future. And a reader of the Worker can safely bet 50 cents that most of the events chronicled are those he himself would have chosen had he the same wide knowledge.

What is the basis of Miss Lawson's choices? Well, reading through the book, I notice that famous strike struggles are liberally sprinkled through the memorable dates. Then you can't turn to a page without coming across items, many of them may be new but all of them significant, about the oppression or the liberation struggles of the Negro people. Milestones in the path of women's battle for women's rights illuminate the pages. Novelists and poets and musicians whose dates are celebrated all played a part in America's

progress. The range is wide and even includes baseball and prize-fighting dates.

This little book has virtues I have not seen in most modern almanacs. It is readable, for example. This is true even physically. Most almanacs are written as if the reader has magnifying glasses instead of eyes. The pictures that illustrate each page have a quaint 18th Century quality that leaven the facts. It is unfortunate the artist isn't named, for he deserves much credit.

But most of all, this almanac remembers the things in the American past and present that are worth remembering. It is on the side of progress, and I welcome it as I welcome every attempt to help bring into being new good dates for America to celebrate.

A LOOK AT BROADWAY

(Continued from Page 8)

"The Carefree Tree," a new power-packed anti-war play in the Chinese manner. There is some fine acting in the current Phoenix staging of Pirandello's "Six Characters in Search of an Author," but I cannot share Pirandello's preoccupation with his negative philosophy of skepticism which is the basic theme of the play.

AMONG the outstanding off-Broadway productions has been the 4th St. Theatre's excellent staging of "Cherry Orchard"; Alice Childress' "Trouble in Mind," a fine play at the Greenwich Mews about the problems of Negro actors; the Shakespearewrights' production of "Macbeth" at the Jan Hus Auditorium; a revival of "Threepenny Opera" at the De Lys, and Shaw's "Village Wooing," which moved from the Greenwich Mews after a long run to the Davenport.

More and more of America's finest actors are turning to the off-Broadway houses to practice their art. Jessica Tandy, Hume Crum, Farley Granger, Robert Ryan, Frederick Worlock, Montgomery Clift, Nancy Walker, Kurt Kazner, Oscar Homolka, Janis Rule and Franchot Tone are among the prominent performers who have appeared in Phoenix productions at minimum Equity salaries.

MORE AND MORE star per-

formers are taking a fling this season in the off-the-stem playhouses. Tallulah Bankhead has signed to work for bus driver's pay in a City Center revival of "Streetcar Named Desire," and Louise Albritton is cast in the lead role of the off-Broadway production of "Third Person" at the President Theatre.

Back on Broadway the mid-season was brightened by a short run of the Katharine Dunham Dance Show. "No Time for Sergeants," a rip-roaring comedy about Army life, is headed for a long run at the Alvin. This is a play that will tickle the ribs of any former GI Joe. Very little of the humor in this play is invented. The situations are amazing, funny and tragic. But that's what life in the Army is like.

The season has had its shows, too, which didn't make the grade. They were "Catch a Star," "Day by the Sea," "Young and Beautiful," "Goat Island," "Wooden Dish," "Heavenly Twins" and "Deadfall."

The question is: Will the theatre show further improvement during 1956? I believe it will in the off-Broadway area. But there are many road-blocks on Broadway. The high cost of production and the shortage of theatres has held up the staging of a number of promising attractions. Fifty-five producers have plays under option, but there are no theatres available.

I would judge that with conditions as they are there will be no more than 20 new shows making their debut on Broadway this year. Compared with London and Paris this is just a drop in a very large bucket.

THE FEW fine plays which we have seen this season reveal great talent in writing, acting and directing. Where the talent is lacking, however, is in a Congress, in the state and municipal legislative bodies which fail to appropriate the necessary funds to subsidize the theatre and other fine arts. Meanwhile, the American theatre is moving ahead, painfully and slowly, yet moving nevertheless, with an increasing number of dedicated souls holding aloft the banner of their art. To these artists: A Happy New Year!

Dear Editor

Letters from Readers

Smith Act Wife

Thanks Readers

Dear Editor:

I want to thank you and your readers for your support of my husband, Jacob Mindel, 74 years of age, ill with progressive heart disease, and complicated chronic disease, now serving a two-year sentence under the Smith Act.

Hundreds of letters were written to the Parole Board on behalf of my husband, including letters from Emily D. Walsh, Nobel Peace Prize Winner; Waldo Frank, author; Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr of Union Theological Seminary, and Bertrand Russell.

At my husband's age and his condition of health his two-year term is in reality a life term; a cruel and unusual punishment which the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution forbids.

I urge with all my heart that you print this letter and that your readers write to President Eisenhower, the White House, Washington, D. C., urging him in the spirit of Christmas to restore freedom to my husband. I would very much appreciate receiving copies of the letters written by your readers to President Eisenhower.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. JACOB MINDEL,
2854 Bronx Park East,
Bronx, 67, N. Y.

Scottish Unionist On Deportation

GLASGOW,
Scotland.

Dear Billy Allan:

In Glasgow, on Oct. 23, a delegate conference was held for the purpose of discussing the current attacks on the democratic rights and liberties of the American people and to consider how best we could assist the struggle of progressive Americans against the effects of McCarthy-like legislation,



WILLIAM ALLAN

such as the Smith Act of which you were yourself a victim.

The conference called by a small sponsoring committee composed of several leading trade unionists, Labor Party workers and others was very well attended; some 150-odd delegates and 40 visitors being present.

The delegates represented 35 branches of national unions, local Labor Parties, eight Co-operative Women's Guilds and other democratic organizations. The main speakers were John Williamson who has recently returned to this country and Mr. Abe Moffat of the Scottish Area of the National Union of Mine Workers. I should perhaps add that the latter was present in his official capacity as president of the Scottish Miners.

In addition to unanimously adopting the main resolution calling for all possible support to all victims of political persecution in the United States, it was also agreed without dissent that this message of good wishes and support to you in your fight for the

retention of your American citizenship should be sent direct to you and that the undernoted terms of resolution should be sent to Federal Judge Lederle:

This gathering of Scottish men and women from many walks of life urges Federal Judge Lederle who is considering what verdict to render on the Billy Allan citizenship case, in the interest of justice to Scots who have become American citizens, as well as in the interest of common decency in respect of Allan's Detroit-born wife and three children, to decide in favor of retention of Allan's American citizenship.

This resolution was dispatched a few days ago in closing, I trust that added to the many protests and resolutions of a similar character which no doubt have been sent by democratic organizations in America, it will help influence Judge Lederle's decision in your favor and in so doing, in favor of every naturalized American.

With all best wishes,

Yours fraternally,
Secretary, Conference Committee
(Signed) John MacDonald.

Wants Stories on Workers' Lives

NEW YORK.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed 10 dollars for the drive. I hope to make it monthly.

Would it be possible to print articles on the advantages of a socialist society over capitalism, or the so-called "free world," particularly as it affects the workers? Also short articles on Marxist economics and the way employers enrich themselves from the labor of workers.

E. T.

Ike Should Look South

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

Dear Editor:

Why is President Eisenhower so greatly concerned with "violations of the rights of men and nations" abroad and so little troubled with violations of rights here at home?

Here in North Carolina Negro children attempted to enter a "white" school. They were denied the right to do so. Where is our President's concern here in this case where the rights of American citizens have been violated.

Negro men and women here in North Carolina and the South can get only the hardest, dirtiest work at the poorest pay and longest hours.

The entire textile industry, the main industry of the South, is closed to some because they are Negro! Where is our President's voice against this violation of our democratic right to work regardless of race, creed, or religious faith? His voice is silent upon this, but he screams at "violations" overseas. One has a right to ask whether he is at all sincere.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram is still in a Georgia jail because she defended her honor against a profane attack. President Eisenhower is her President, sworn to uphold the rights of Mrs. Ingram and her people—why no word at all about mother Ingram and her two sons?

Can a President of our country scream and rant and rave about the lack of rights and be so unconcerned about them in Old Fort, N.C., in Reidsville, Ga., in Houston, Tex., in Mississippi, and Alabama?

A white Southerner and worker who suffers economically, culturally, and in every other way from the poison of Jim Crow wants to know. He feels he has a right to hear from the President about this.

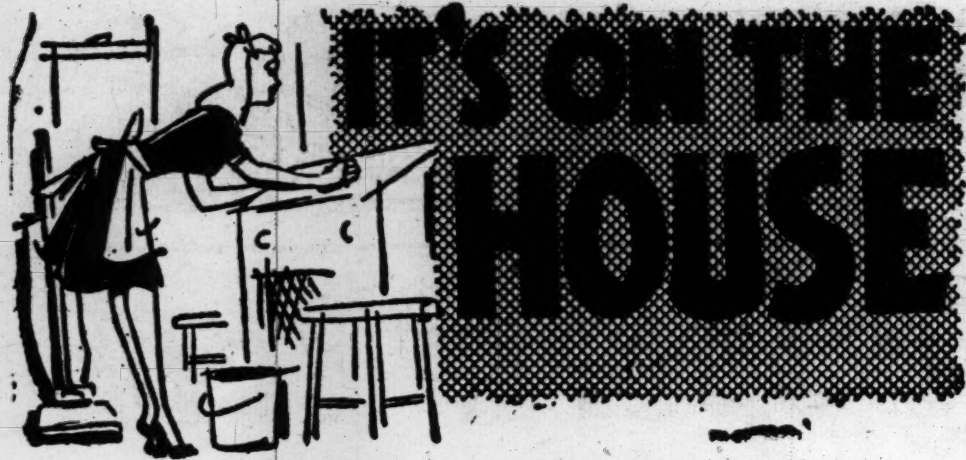
A WHITE WORKER
OF NORTH CAROLINA.

HELP WANTED

to ring in a truly
**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

Help Complete the
\$64,000 Fund Drive
of
**THE WORKER and
DAILY WORKER**

**RUSH Your Contributions to: 35 East 12th St., NYC 3
or Box 136, Cooper Station, N.Y.C. 3, N.Y.**



January Plentiful

By JO LYNNE
Federated Press

THE LIST of January plentiful foods is topped by pork, beef and grapefruit. Shoppers will find a wide variety of kinds and cuts of the meats to suit family tastes and budgets. Pork, cured and fresh, will continue a specially good buy. Beef will be plentiful but not cheap.

The grapefruit crop is well above last year's and promises to be of excellent quality at reasonable prices. January grapefruit will come from Florida and the southwest.

There will also be many tangerines. They are popular with children and easier to eat out of hand than other citrus fruits. Tangerine juice is one of the best of the citrus juices—try squeezing it fresh. It has a real tang.

There will be lots of potatoes and winter pears. Milk and milk products are in increased production and so are eggs and they are in great demand, so prices are not expected to fall. Continued full supply of vegetable fats and oils and canned tuna fish is anticipated.

FARM LIVING GETS WORSE

Increases in farm living costs, along with declining farm income, may result in further cuts in farm family purchasing power, the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture reports. Unless farmers can increase their nonfarm income they will feel the pinch of the farm depression still more.

Agriculture Sec. Benson's department finds that one third of all farm families are still not enjoying what is considered the American standard of living. His Dec. 14 bulletin says:

"In spite of continued spending by farm families for conveniences and facilities, living con-

ditions still need improvement. For example, an estimated third of all U. S. farms lack piped running water. Though farm families produce and buy large quantities of food many still lack some of the essential nutrients in their daily meals.

"This may be from lack of nutrition knowledge as well as from insufficient resources."

What the bulletin is saying is that some of the farmers may be too ignorant to eat right while others of them are too poor. The Eisenhower administration's farm problem has many angles.

WEIGH YOUR RICE

Women's auxiliaries and other groups preparing dinners for many people should weigh the rice they cook instead of measuring it, say federal home economists working on school lunch programs. A single pound of raw rice may fill from 2 1/3 to 2 2/3 cups, depending on the length of the kernels. Long-grain rice weighs less than short-grain by the cup because the kernels don't fit so close together. That makes a difference when you cook for 50 or 100 people.

For 50 1/2-cup servings of firm yet tender cooked rice, 3 lbs. white rice are cooked in 3 quarts boiling water in a covered 10-quart saucepan over direct heat on top of the range. Add a tablespoon salt, also a tablespoon bland cooking oil or fat to keep the rice from foaming over and to keep the grains separate. Cook covered 15 minutes on low heat. Remove from heat and let stand 5 to 10 minutes.

Oven cooking in a covered baking dish at 350 degrees is easier. Use 3 lbs. white rice to 4 quarts boiling water with a tablespoon each of salt and oil. Stir the rice into the boiling water and bake 30 minutes. If you don't have a cover use aluminum foil over the bake dish.

Don't cook just a little rice in a lot of water and then drain off the water. That wastes nutritive values which are poured off with the water as you drain the rice. If your proportions of rice and water are right, and the cooking and the temperature right, the rice will absorb all the water and none of it will have to be drained off.

8149
12-20

SPRING PREVIEW

Next spring's new look for sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. For pattern No. 8149, send 35 cents in coin, your name, address, pattern number and size to Federated Press, 1150 Avenue of the Americas, New York 36, N. Y. The latest issue of our pattern magazine contains dozens more smart, easy to sew styles for all ages. Send 25 cents for your copy of the spring-summer '56 issue.

No Parking This Side . . .
Monday, Wednesday, Friday

By LESTER RODNEY

IF YOU have a car and live in Manhattan you can skip this. You know all about it. For the others, let me tell you of the dread advance of Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to the furthestmost confines of our crowded little island. Here's what happens. One day they put little poles up and down the streets. Soon came the signs. "No Parking, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m." On

you finally park is on the side where it says no parking Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m. This means, instead of sleeping the next morning, you have to be out of the house and at the car before eight to move it. But at this stage you don't even want to look that far ahead, you're rid of the car for the night and free to go home!

The next morning at five to eight the sound of motors starting up is like a flight of airplanes passing

middle of a quiet night the sound of a motor turning over is heard, windows slam open and you can hear the scream "Fred, wake up and get the car, there's a space on the good side. I'll run down and hold it!"

Things are so tough with parking I know somebody considering becoming a bookie so the cops will stop bothering him.

THERE IS one little secret, actually one side of one little street near me where for some inexplicable reason the signs never went up. It is an oasis for 17 cars, no more. I'm not telling where it is, because if I did there would be a rush of cars uptown and that would spoil our chances, which are none too good as it is. For our family, which never uses the car during the week, this is a tremendous spot to get if you can get it. You're set for the week! No searching and changing early and late! But it's hard to get. One Sunday morning before going to work I cruised past this street just hoping one of the 17 would be so silly as to use their car on a sunny Sunday, and leave a space for me. Sure enough, there was smoke coming from an exhaust! I backed up careening with screeching tires, assumed a favorable, vulture-like waiting position and looked toward the man at the wheel. He opened his mouth in a mirthless, soundless laugh. Ha ha. His face was haggard and drawn. I don't know what he was doing in the car running the motor but I know he was prepared to die rather than give up that spot, and considered it too funny even for laughter that I should imagine he was leaving it.

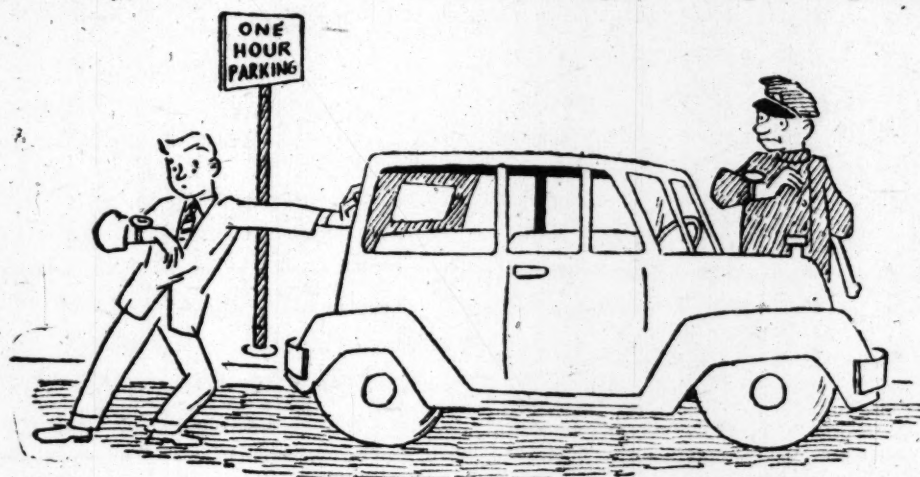
I inadvertently overheard one family argument in that area. The family was apparently supposed to visit someone out in Long Island. The man had gotten the car into one of THE 17 spots. "You crazy?" he snapped, "I got the car parked for the week, thank God, and you want to use it to go to Long Island! We'll take the train."

The wife answered him with equal incredulity. "Are you serious? A train and two buses, with the kids and the packages, when we got a car? What have we got a car for, to use it or to park it?"

"So we'll take a train and two buses," he answered, with quiet bitterness. "That's all there is to it. Do you know what it's like to hunt for a safe spot early and late, a lot you care, I finally get rid of the car and you want . . ."

That's all I heard. You had the feeling he was about to laugh wildly and scream "RID OF IT, RID OF IT! HaHaHaHaHa."

Happy Monday, Wednesday and Friday to you, fellow Manhattan motorists.



the other side of the street, if there is any parking allowed at all, the sign says "No Parking, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8 to 11 a.m." The reason is so the street cleaning department can run that revolving broom up along the curb and clean the street, a purpose with which no public-minded citizen can quarrel.

Finding parking space before was trouble enough, so a few hardy souls immediately put the new signs to a test, saying "Ah, they won't really do anything about it." If these optimists are lucky they find a green ticket, \$15 variety, affixed to their windshield wiper. But more likely they gaze stupidly at an empty spot along the curb. One of our cars is missing. It has been towed away by Department of Sanitation wreckers, and it costs no less than \$20 to reclaim.

THE NEW signs have brought a new way of life to the part of upper Manhattan where I live. There is a frantic, grim, never ending search for a safe parking place. If you are one who uses a car during the day and returns home with it at night, you go through a nightly routine of taut cruising and circling looking for a space. You tentatively squeeze in at a fire hydrant and then reluctantly pull out again—since six inches is clearly not far enough from a pump. Finally, more likely than not, after a half hour of this fruitless search, with wistful visions of home growing stronger and stronger, you find and gratefully fill a space on the "wrong" side for the next morning.

In other words, let's say this is Friday night, and the space where

overhead. The cars lurch sullenly out of the forbidden spots. Where do they go? Now that's an interesting question. I've tried to find out, and have almost come to a startling conclusion.

A RARE handful find spots being vacated on the safe side of the streets. But the majority have no place. Still, by 8:05 you see the wrong side of the streets clean as a whistle, a miracle. Then at 11, when the heat is off, Whoom, Swish! It is like a huge vacuum being filled, and in no time at all both sides of the street are again lined solidly with cars. Where were they from 8 to 11? They didn't evaporate, or hang in the air like helicopters. You are almost forced to conclude that lots of people simply live in their cars from 8 to 11, driving morosely around and around. If you think this is ridiculous, explain to me where they go, this side of the supernatural!

The 11 o'clock whoosh into the vacuum is made more exciting by the following phenomenon: housewives, car keys in hand, come tumbling from various buildings to cars which had been on the safe side for that morning, and quickly maneuver over to the side which hadn't been safe up to this minute, the reason being they are now triumphantly in the safe spot for the NEXT morning. They say the advent of these Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday signs has finally forced some reluctant husbands to teach their wives how to drive so they can get into Operation Big Switch at 11 a.m. every morning.

The way things are, if in the

Advances in Medicine Bring Nearer the Conquest of Disease

By FEDERATED PRESS

MEDICAL science may well be on the verge of crossing a frontier into a new land as exciting as that attained by the physical scientists when they uncovered the secret of the atom.

A number of developments reported in the nation's press, usually deep in the inside pages of the newspapers, substantiate the existence of this possibility. Three such developments can be summarized in this column.

The first of these discoveries to be reported was that of a successful technique to break down viruses into two components. Viruses are strange, tiny substances which stand on the dividing line between living and non-living matter and which are capable of causing a wide variety of diseases ranging from the common cold to polio. Not long ago, viruses were so difficult to study that they could not be isolated, that is, set aside from the materials in which they existed. Now, however, biological chem-

ists have succeeded in learning that a virus consists of two separate components which can be separated one from another. Further, it is believed a deadly virus can be rendered harmless if it is split, and then prevented from reuniting. This could be done by introducing into the picture another substance which would naturally unite with half of the virus.

In other words, what is projected is a new route toward conquest of not one, but all virus diseases, a route far safer than any yet discovered for any one.

A SECOND highly promising discovery was reported at the recent Chicago gathering of the American College of Surgeons. A group of scientists of Western Reserve University in Cleveland reported to the medical meeting that they had established the existence of a substance in the human blood which tends to increase resistance not to one but to all diseases. The substance, called properdin, had previously been discovered to have

a powerful effect in barring infections in experimental animals. It had been noted that the higher the blood level of properdin in the animal, the greater the animal's resistance to disease.

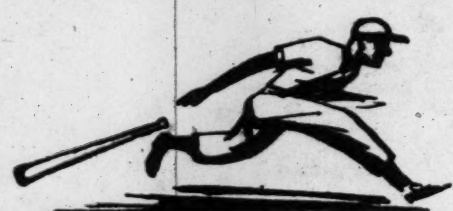
As a result of the latest experimentation, there are strong indications that the same relationship of properdin to disease immunity holds for humans. If this is finally established, doctors may have an amazing new weapon. By administering properdin to men and women, they may be able to establish general disease immunities which will no longer be dependent on exposure to active and often dangerous infections.

Finally, an amazing new surgical success can be noted. This accomplishment, also reported to the American College of Surgeons meeting, consisted of the first successful transplant of a healthy human kidney to replace a diseased kidney.

SCIENTISTS long have sought methods for surgical replacement of diseased vital organs. Up to

now they have always run into one major obstacle. The natural human defenses against disease include the pouring out of antibodies in the bloodstream to counterattack a germ attacking from the outside. Ironically, this defense mechanism goes into action when surgeons attempt to introduce a transplanted organ. The organ is attacked by the antibodies just as if it were an invading germ, and until this successful kidney operation by Harvard University surgeons, the antibodies have always "won" by destroying the transplanted organ.

The kidney transplant, it should be noted, was achieved under very special conditions in that the donor of the healthy organ was identical twin of the man needing the new kidney. Nevertheless, the success of one vital organ transplant undoubtedly means that before too long more generally applicable techniques will be developed, not only for kidney transplants but for the replacement of other diseased vital organs such as the liver and even the heart.



The Worker Sports



Dodgers Big News in Big Sports Year

Ray's Comeback, Track Records, Sports Coexistence Mark 1955..

By LESTER RODNEY

ANY WAY you look at it, 1955 was quite a year, and the world of sports was not immune. While it isn't likely to rate the history books with Geneva, the Dodgers finally brought down their old nemesis, the Yanks, in the most glorious fashion imaginable, bringing the first World Series victory to Brooklyn. If nothing else happened in the world of sports in 1955, this alone would make it an earth shaking year.

Next in line would be the comeback of 35-year-old Ray Robinson, who did what no prize fighter is supposed to do, return to the ring after having quit, and knocking out the champion to regain the title.

Then there were, in this pre-Olympic year, the smashing of no less than 15 world track and field records and the tying of two, with young American hopefuls like Arnie Sowell and Lon Spurrier doing their part, but a group of Hungarians wreaking most of the indignities on the world marks.

There was heavyweight champ Rocky Marciano defending his title successfully twice, the first time in a woeful mismatch against England's Don Cockell, and then, finally yielding to public clamor, taking on the magnificent old 39-year-old Archie Moore, king of the light heavies, and reproving his sturdy caliber with a KO victory, but only after Archie had waged a thrilling, gallant stand.

There were those Cleveland Browns marching on and on in pro football, the Aussies taking the Davis Cup back, Carmen Basilio slugging his way to fistic glory, Joe DiMag making the Hall of Fame, notable victories over sports jimmerow, coexistence in sports burgeoning between our country and the USSR and... but let's try to bring a little order out of this chaos... just a little.

BASEBALL—In the National League, the Dodgers, with a sound Campanella back in form, broke from the barrier with a record breaking 10 in a row, saw Don Newcombe reel on a record of 18 and 1 by Allstar time, with Duke Snider slamming as never before, and were never headed though a rash of sore arms played havoc with the pitching. In the other league the Yanks took it back from the Indians after a one-year slip, and catchers Campanella and Berra each won his third straight Most Valuable Player award.

Then came the World Series, the Dodgers' sixth try against the Yanks, and after losing the first two to make it look like the same old story, they swept the next three at Ebbets Field, lost the sixth to tie it 3-3, and in a dramatic finish behind young Johnny Podres and saved by Sandy Amaros' great catch, won the finale at the Stadium 2-0 to touch off perhaps the wildest celebration scenes in baseball history.

Our Giants, 1954's champions of all they surveyed, slipped down to third, but you couldn't blame Willie Mays. This young man, who supposedly had an "off year," hit 51 homers, 10 more than when he was voted MVP in '54, knocked in 127 runs, 17 more than '54, and finished second in league batting averages.

Kansas City had a big open-

ing year and finished sixth, two notches better than most expected. Ted Williams had the Red Sox up there much of the way. Mickey Mantle hit one in the Stadium off an Alex Kellner change - up which sailed high over the 30-foot barrier at the 461-foot sign in dead center, the longest belt ever at the Stadium.

The Dodgers were rarely pressed, so it's hard to put one's finger on one spot in the race. For the Yanks, you knew they had it one night in September when the Indians were pressing them. The Red Sox were in town, Whitey Ford led 3-1 going into the 8th, then was routed, the Sox went ahead 4-3 and put in relief ace Ellis Kinder to pitch the 9th. The Yanks got one on and up came Berra. He had already hit one homer this night. He hit another, and as this awkward looking money player touched all the bases, in the press box you said, "That's the pennant."

But the Dodgers had the last word in baseball. About time.

Looking to the '56 season, the two most notable news events are the drafting of Johnny Podres, reducing the Dodgers' advantage over the league, and the big trade which sent Larry Doby to the White Sox to perhaps make real all the way contenders out of that annual "almost" team.

BASKETBALL in the college world saw the Duquesne and San Francisco teams acclaimed as co-champions, with the nod here going to the Dukes of Pittsburgh, who won both the Holiday Festival Tourney against the Cola-led La Salles, and the National Invitation Tourney as well, and featured two great All Americans on one team in Si Green and Dick Ricketts. In the pros, it was Syracuse nosing out Fort Wayne.

TRACK—Perhaps the biggest single day came in London. Less than one year after Bannister and Landy had broken the "impossible" four-minute mile, a young Hungarian named Tabori led Briton's Chataway and Hewson through the tape in a triple beating of the magic mark. And the next day teammate Ibaros knocked 7 seconds off the two-mile record. That's the way it's been going, and a lot of fun ahead at Australia in November next.

COEXISTENCE in sports took some giant strides forward as American and Soviet athletes met in dual competition for the first time ever. The ice breaker was the visit of three of our speed skaters to Moscow. The Star Spangled Banner was raised over the Dynamo Stadium, our men tried hard but were beaten at a sport in which the Russians excel, and came back glowing with stories of friendship.

Our weightlifters had the same experience in Moscow, and, if you categorize it as a sport, so did our chess team. On the other side of the coin, our welcome rug was not out as freely

BOWL STORIES TO'MW-AND OUR PREDIX

ROSE BOWL

UCLA vs. Michigan State at Pasadena. Over Channel 4, 4:45 p.m. New York time. Michigan State favored, is chief national exponent of the "multiple offense," using a mixture of 7 formations and single wing, featuring great quarterback Earl Morrall. UCLA is a straight, old fashioned single wing team, with a great one-two backfield punch in hard running tailback Sam Brown and blasting fullback Bob Davenport.

SUGAR BOWL

The game Georgia's governor

wanted to cancel, Georgia Tech vs. Pitt, which has a Negro player. Over Channel 7, 2 p.m. New York time. Tech favored, a slick, fast T team. Pitt also 7, but a power type of running team.

ORANGE BOWL

The two unbeaten, Oklahoma vs. Maryland. Channel 2, 2 p.m. New York time. Two similar split-T teams stressing ground game, with option plays. Oklahoma, with terrific open field running threat Tommy McDonald, more speed and scoring

COTTON BOWL

Texas Christian vs. Mississippi, 1:45, Channel 4. TCU, with All American runner Jim Swink, favored over pass conscious Ole Miss, featuring quarterback Eagle Day.

OUR HUNCH—Mississippi to make it a very upsetting Bowl day.

yet, a proposed basketball tour by a Russian team being cancelled by the AAU at the last minute with some State Department-inspired nonsense about caution in insuring reciprocity, which really stood the actual situation on its head.

But they couldn't reverse the direction of things, peaceful competitive coexistence, which will be on display soon at the Winter Olympics in Italy where American athletes will compete with Russians and also, for the first time, Chinese, as well as a united German team of east and west athletes, another historic first chalked up by sports.

And with a frank article by Avery Brundage, "Mr. Olympics," in the Saturday Evening Post, millions of Americans learned the "secret" of the success of the big socialist country in sports. Said Brundage, hardly a friend of Russia: "During my 1934 visit I learned about the Soviet plans to give physical training to all Russians. The government was proposing to build playing fields, stadia and swimming pools in every city, town and village, at every large factory and on every collective farm. In my 1954 trip I saw the fruition of those plans."

And similarly, AAU national secretary Dan Ferris talking of 1956 Olympic changes, "Where Russia has the big edge on us in this respect is that all the leading factories in the Soviet Union have sports fields and stadia where the workers who are athletically inclined can practice after working hours. These are also available to women athletes. All this explains why Russia has 3,000,000 track and field competitors, whereas America couldn't muster one-third that number."

No matter what else they think of the USSR, sports fans could at least reflect that a country doing those things couldn't be a country which wanted a war.

OTHERS — In tennis, those fearsome 20-year-old Australians Hoad and Rosewall took back the Davis Cup, and by a humiliating 5-0 score at that, and to make the outlook worse, Tony Trabert went professional with Jack Kramer's troupe while the Aussies backed out. . . . Oklahoma and Maryland went undefeated in college football and will settle the number one spot next Monday, though some think once beaten Michigan State finished as the year's best. . . . The most fabulous schoolboy basketball star in history, Phillie's Wilt Chamberlain, wooed by 125 colleges, wound up in Kansas, whose freshman team now beats the varsity with ease. . . . Underrated Carmen Basilio, the

upstate onion farmer, was the fighter of the year with his two gruelling victories over Tony De Marco to take, and hold, the welterweight crown. . . . The Worker, blush, blush, had a pretty good predicting year, predicting the Dodgers and Yanks to win their pennants, the Dodgers to win the World Series, Archie Moore to KO Bobo Olson, Rocky Marciano to kayo Moore, Syracuse to win the pro title, and Duquesne to win the NIT.

BIGGEST BLOW to sports discrimination was the recent outraged uprising of Georgia Tech students—and other Georgia collegians in support—against Gov. Marvin (Armageddon) Griffin's Ku Klux-like attempt to cancel the Sugar Bowl game against Pitt, which has a Negro player. He got whipped, as you can see, by tuning in Channel 7 Monday.

Another big event was the

smashing of the hotel discrimination in Chicago against Yankee Negro player Elston Howard. The New York team's first Negro player was forced to separate from his mates who stayed at the jimmerow Del Prado Hotel, a situation first revealed here. Other interracial teams, at other hotels, stayed together in Chi. The Yanks, prodded vigorously, and with Howard making his own feelings clear, finally announced that the Del Prado would take Howard.

WHAT HAS 1956 in store in the world of sports? Nobody knows, but at least it will be a year of competition in a world at peace, and with athletes all over the world getting better all the time, and the Olympics coming up, it COULD be the biggest year ever.

We'll be telling you about it as it happens, in the Daily Worker.

Pope's Plea

(Continued from Page 5)

many was holding up solution of the German problem. Unden pointed out that, on the contrary, Western insistence on lining up the Wehrmacht of a "united Germany" in NATO was responsible for failure to get agreement at the second Geneva conference. The N. Y. Times cabled from Stockholm (Dec. 26):

"Writing in the Social Democratic Party's magazine Tiden Mr. Unden said unification was impossible as long as West Germany was allied militarily with the U.S., Britain and France and committed to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization."

The Swedish foreign minister said the West should go into another conference with the USSR and propose a neutral Germany, which was the basis on which the Austrian state treaty was agreed upon.

STILL ANOTHER anti-Communist figure who exploded the hoax of blaming Russia for the cold war was Mendes-France. In his anxiety to win votes in the national election on Monday Mendes-France took issue with the statement of the NATO council that Soviet moves in the Middle and Far East meant a resumption of the cold war.

Mendes-France said that this was the kind of peaceful competition which the West should be anxious to conduct with the Soviet Union. He also denied that the sale of Czech arms to Egypt was in any way a threat to peace. A dispatch to the N. Y. Times (Dec. 21) said:

"He described the recent Soviet sale of arms to Egypt as a reply to the 'unhappy Baghdad

pact, which constituted for the West a blunder of which we now see the consequences."

All in all it was a week which proved in every possible way that America needs a new foreign policy. We need a policy based on ending the cold war not on artificial efforts to maintain it.

Congress

(Continued from Page 2)

from Federal control. This would swell the profits of his Texas millionaire oil backers at the expense by hundreds of millions, at the expense of natural gas consumers throughout the country.

The main strategy of the Johnson-Rayburn partnership—apart from the natural gas steel—is to rebuff the pressure of the people on the Democrats. They are in power by grace of the Dixiecrats, and their part of the bargain is to prevent the swelling demand for civil rights legislation from disrupting their "party unity" with the racists in their ranks.

They received a sharp lesson last session on how vulnerable is their pact with the Dixiecrats when Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, New York Democrat, singlehanded, in the face of White House mobilization, Dixie hatred, and do-nothing by the Democratic leadership, succeeded in preventing jimmerow from being written into the military training bill.

It is expected this will be followed, in the coming session, by a sharp battle for positive achievements under the leadership of Powell and Rep. Charles Diggs, Michigan Democrat, in the House and of Herbert Lehman, New York Democrat in the Senate.

THE WEEK IN LABOR AFFAIRS

• Non-Op Railroaders Win • Plan State AFL-CIO Mergers

IN CHICAGO, AFL and CIO leaders will meet Jan. 3 to set in motion city and state merger plans. Illinois AFL has about 1,000,000 members and CIO some 300,000.

A 16.5 CENT package agreement has been gained by 800,000 railroad workers in the "non-op" unions. Of this, 14½ cents came as a wage hike, and the balance is covered by full railroad payment of health and welfare plan.

NEGOTIATIONS for non-op workers on the Penn Railroad will resume Jan. 4. The Transport Workers Union put off its Dec. 23 strike deadline to allow for further talks on wage demands and grievance issues, 22,500 shopmen are involved.

AT A JAM-PACKED mass rally in Miami Beach, 2500 hotel workers vowed to keep up unionizing drive in Florida's luxury resort hotels. Six major hotels are now signed up.

THE AFL-CIO will sponsor two radio news programs in 1956 over the nationwide network of the American Broadcasting Co. Edward P. Morgan will be on at 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time from Washington, D. C. and John Vandercook will be heard at 10 p.m. from New York.

AFL-CIO MERGER plans in Michigan will be worked out Jan. 10 by the 20-man joint committee of the State Federation of Labor and CIO Council. CIO outnumbers AFL 2 to 1 in Michigan, about the reverse of the nationwide ratio.

WHEN RENEWAL of textile contracts come up in the spring, one union will represent

the textile workers. This was the prediction of Henry Brides, former president of the Massachusetts Federation of Labor. Brides, an influential leader in the Bay State labor movement, also predicted a merger of the shoe workers.

MICHIGAN conference of UAW and other unions on FEPC will take place Jan. 22. AFL locals are also expected to take part, showing growing unity in state.

CONTRACT terms with Liggett & Myers and Phillip Morris Co. have been won by the Tobacco Workers Union, including an 8-cent hourly pay increase. Only R. J. Reynolds, maker of Camels, is still holding out against unionism.

MERGER of the Kansas CIO and AFL will take place May 12, 1956, labor officials announced after they set up a joint committee to work out the details. A state-wide convention will be held then of both groups.

LABOR gained a significant victory in its fight against the Taft-Hartley law when the U.S. Court of Appeals, in the case of an IUE local in New York, ruled that a union may picket companies doing work "farmed out" by a struck firm, as well as consumers using the services of the struck outfit.

CONSTRUCTION on an Air Force bomber base at Plattsburgh, N.Y. was stopped when three unions struck in protest against the firing of 22 members. The Air Force had decided to replace the union men with non-union, civil service employees.

THE WEEK IN NEGRO AFFAIRS

• Jimcrow Signs Down • Golf Links Opened

SEPARATE "white" and "colored" signs were being torn and removed in railroad and bus stations in many points throughout the South in answer to the order of the U.S. Interstate Commerce Commission to end jimcrow in transportation by Jan. 10. In Chicago, the Illinois Central RR notified agents to stop selling tickets for jimcrow coaches to passengers traveling South. Mississippi officials, however, announced their determination to enforce racial segregation; though they admitted they had no power to halt the removal of the signs by the rail and bus companies. Other Southern state officials have been silent, thus far.

ATLANTA'S public golf links were opened to use by Negroes, following the victory in a Supreme Court case against racial bans on the city-owned Bobby Jones golf course. Dr. H. M. Holmes, 71, who initiated the court test in 1951, played his first game on the links last week, without incident, Georgia's Governor Marvin Griffin had angrily protested the Court decision, but Atlanta's Mayor had said he would obey the law.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS, churches, and other organiza-

tions in the South, should end all forms of segregations, the Catholic Commission on Human Rights of the South has urged in a unanimously adopted resolution. The commission also went on record as favoring the plan of Archbishop Francis Rummel of Louisiana to end segregation in Catholic schools in that state after September 1956, despite the opposition of a number of the parishes.

THE BOYCOTT by Negroes of the Montgomery (Alabama) City Bus Lines continued into a third week. The boycott is considered to be 90 percent effective. The Rev. M. L. King, leader of the movement, gave the demands of his group. They are: courteous treatment by bus drivers; assignment of seats on a "first come, first served" basis; and the hiring of Negro bus drivers in Negro residential areas. They point out that Negroes furnish more than 50 percent of the bus lines traffic.

A VIRGINIA jury took 21 minutes to free a white business man who shot and killed a Negro sawmill worker, who had placed his arm on a white man's shoulder. The freed man, Ira D. Hinton was a storekeeper and member of a wealthy family in Tidewater, Virginia. Witnesses testified that Hinton had been drinking heavily just before the shooting. State troopers patrolled outside the courthouse during the trial, and the Negro community, aroused by the shooting, attended the trial in great numbers.

South Enters 1956 with Most Schools in Jimcrow Column

By ABNER W. BERRY

IT IS NOW seven months since the United States Supreme Court issued its final decrees establishing that segregated schools are illegal. But Deep South states are still advancing plans ranging from nullifying federal laws to financing private-school education to evade the ruling.

There have not been any steps toward complying with the high court's decision in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, or Mississippi. In the Border States of Missouri, Maryland, Delaware, and Kentucky the theory of integration has been generally accepted, and officials—with notable exception—have announced willingness to desegregate.

Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and W. Virginia are reportedly proceeding gradually to abandon segregated schools in areas with sparse Negro populations. However, Tennessee is more "gradual" than that, limiting its plans to integrate colleges in one year and allow the process to trickle down year by year until it reaches elementary schools.

But, if we except the states of Maryland, Delaware, Missouri and W. Virginia, the number of Negro students affected does not go beyond hundreds. The real problem of enforcement confronting the supporters of the U.S. Supreme Court decision is to be found in those states with the overwhelming majority of Negro victims of segregated educational facilities.

IN MISSISSIPPI the pro-segregationists have created what amounts to an atmosphere of secession in opposition to school integration. Sen. James O. Eastland is being widely supported in racist circles there on his call for invoking the defunct principle of "nullification."

The Mississippi racist would nullify the 14th Amendment and the Supreme Court anti-segregation ruling, "interposing" state laws as being superior in states to all federal laws.

Official Mississippi, headed by Gov. elect J. P. Coleman, is united on the declaration that segregation will be continued in the state no matter what Congress or the Supreme Court does. The Coleman program, drawn by a legislative committee appointed by Gov. Hugh White would—

• Make it a crime for any federal agent in attempting to en-

force a federal law to interfere with any Mississippi citizen.

• Disbar attorneys in the state who represent clients pressing integration suits.

• Compel all school personnel to pledge loyalty to the state constitution and list all organizations in which they hold memberships. (Presumably the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is "subversive" of Mississippi law and constitution.)

SENATOR John C. Stennis speaking before a Jackson meeting of the Mississippi Farm Bureau asked that the Coleman formula be amended to include an "ultimatum" to Negroes:

"They either accept segregated schools or face abolition of the public school system."

Stennis at another meeting agreed with Eastland, the senior Mississippi U.S. Senator, that the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is "illegal," and urged Coleman to proceed with a test case.

Georgia, led by Gov. Marvin Griffin and Attorney General Eugene Cook, has an almost identical program with that of Mississippi backed by an equally recalcitrant attitude toward obeying federal law. Gov. Griffin told a Charleston, S.C., White Citizens Council meeting: "Georgia will have separate public schools or no public schools. We finance the schools in Georgia, and by the Eternal, we will operate those schools."

In South Carolina, whose representatives argued before the Supreme Court that perhaps a hundred years should be granted the state for effecting a gradual transition to integration, is acting as if the court had ruled in its favor. A legislative committee is "studying the question, but in the meantime desegregation is at a standstill while White Citizens Councils carry on a campaign against Negro petitioners with terror and the economic boycott."

VIRGINIANS will go to the polls in a special referendum on Jan. 9 to accept or reject a special legislative session to consider pro-

posals submitted by the Gray Committee, an Administration sponsored group. The group has proposed laws to—

• Permit state funds to be given students for private school tuitions.

• Empower school boards to assign pupils, transport them so that no student will be forced to attend an integrated school.

• Allow localities the option to either abolish schools, integrate them or use funds to fight suits against segregation. Local boards will be authorized, but not required to maintain public schools.

Louisiana already has a law placing full power on school matters in the hands of local authorities. So far there have been no steps taken toward integration of the public schools in any part of the state. However, it has been announced that Catholic schools will begin in 1956 putting into effect a desegregation program.

FLORIDA has been given four months by the Florida Supreme Court to determine whether or not it is ready to admit a Negro student in the law school of the University of Florida. Public school integration is still in the "study" stage.

In almost every state there are one or another of some 40 organizations formed to fight integration. In Arkansas, the Hoxie school district, has sued for a permanent injunction against the White Citizens Councils there restraining the group from violent interference with the school integration program.

Elsewhere these white supremacy groups have gone unchallenged.

Now on top of the Supreme Court decision, which in the main is being ignored, there is the decision against segregated state parks and golf courses. And on Jan. 10, 1956, the Interstate Commerce Commission has ordered an end to segregated travel and waiting rooms for all interstate passengers. The question is arising: How many legal rights can be spelled out on paper before federal enforcement agencies strive to make them realities?

Economics

(Continued from Page 2)

the bankers' jargon, this means—cut spending for other social needs, keep wages low, submit to foreign controls over Egypt's currency.

Will the offer guarantee the financing of Egypt's dam? Washington speaks of offering only part of the funds now. The dam can be left adrift in the middle if Egypt doesn't "toe the line" politically and economically. A U. S. monopoly will be insured: "the officials added that it was implicit in the Western offer that it excluded the Russians" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 19). Egypt will be forbidden to turn elsewhere for help.

Are the terms generous? The USSR offers a market for Egypt's cotton as a means of repayment. Washington offers the unrestricted competition of its unmanageable cotton surplus. The USSR offers a loan of \$600 million for 50 years at two percent interest. The U. S. and Britain talk of offering \$250 million for 30 years from the World Bank at four and one-half percent plus "grants" of \$200 million. But \$50 million of this money the British owe Egypt, so the actual grant is cut to \$150 million. The extra interest—over and above the two percent in the Soviet proposal—that would be paid on \$250 million in 30 years, comes

to \$187.5 million, or more than than the amount of the "free grant."

The same Wall Street interests that run the southern utilities run the World Bank. Will they use the loan to get their hooks into Egypt, as they have in the South?

THOUGHT for a peaceful New Year: How about U. S.-Soviet collaboration on a generous loan to Egypt without strings?

Westinghouse

(Continued from Page 2)

has been due mainly to new machinery and equipment. Now the firm looks for more efficient results from its men rather than its machines."

This approach is in direct contradiction to the oft-stated position of unions—for a share of the increased productivity and fruits of automation in the form of higher living standards.

ALTHOUGH Westinghouse is one of the major industrial giants of America, its management is using the same argument the smaller hard-pressed firms have used when they threatened to move or shut doors, if the unions don't give them concessions. The company cries it will go on the rocks if it doesn't get a free hand to undersell GE and the others. Here is how Westinghouse vice-president

W. C. Rowland put it to the Wall Street Journal:

"All of our jobs are jeopardized unless management is free to use modern, up to date production methods and unless we can expect a full day's effort from every employee."

And Westinghouse president Gwyn Price charges the striking unions want to limit the company's right to take time-studies (speedup) and adds it "will never give up this right, no matter how long the strike lasts."

Conversely, the workers can never give up their right to limit the speedup, no matter how long it takes, and for that reason united labor cannot avoid its responsibility and duty to invest all the finances and manpower it takes, including a national boycott by all unions of all services to Westinghouse, to win this strike.

PROF. LOUISE Pettibone Smith, testified in defense of the Committee for the Protection of the Foreignborn before the Subversive Activities Control Board. The distinguished educator, professor emeritus of Biblical History at Wellesley College, declared that the organization was not "communist controlled" and that she, who is chairman of the organization, is a registered Republican. The hearing seeks to have the Committee register as a "Communist Front."

Bill of Rights
for All
Make Freedom Ring
all over this land!

1955 — THE YEAR END VIEW — 1956

LABOR

(Continued from Page 3)

the merger. There may be some differences among them, just as employers who on the whole don't like unions, may differ in their tactical approaches. But few corporation executives or their political tools will be found in America who really love the merger. Their voices express a fear for its potential danger to them, notwithstanding the praise they shower on Meany and others like him.

The first big question as we enter the new year is how soon and how forcefully the unions of the AFL-CIO follow through on the most constructive decisions of the convention. The sooner large masses of the rank and file are in motion on drives to organize the unorganized, political action, civil rights, civil liberties and the peoples legislative program, the more futile will be the efforts of George Meany for a reverse trend — to enter into a "non-aggression" pact with the employers, to step up red-baiting and like divisive tactics, and to develop a Knowland-like approach on foreign policy as he did when he even attacked India as an "ally to Communism" and American liberals for not doing likewise.

THE fast-spreading anticipation among the workers that we are truly on the threshold of a "new beginning" for the labor movement, is a tremendous opportunity to set the unions in motion along the most constructive lines and to defeat those who limit the advance or hold labor to the policies of the old AFL conservative elements.

The second important problem is how soon labor can be put on the road to a clear-cut pro-peace position.

There are forces within the AFL-CIO that have greeted the results of the "Summit" conference and see the need for a policy of peaceful coexistence. But the organization as such especially its president, follow a program for a stepped up cold war that has won praise from some of the most dangerous sabre-rattlers in the country. This runs in direct contradiction to the sentiments of the people as a whole and the membership of the AFL-CIO. This policy also endangers labor's domestic objectives and its hopes in the presidential election. A program that does not have peace in its

very center will not win the people; will not arouse the big enthusiastic army of doorbell ringers labor must throw into action to win in '56.

Progressives in labor enter 1956 with a feeling that the trend is for a march forward. This opens a new perspective. An opportunity is open for those who want to be active in the labor movement to contribute their best. Labor unity plus peace, plus anti-McCarthyism can add up to a force greater than any yet experienced on the Western Hemisphere.

CIVIL RIGHTS

(Continued from Page 3)

the dead line for enforcement of the ICC order. Already the Deep South state governments have announced they will ignore the order and insist on enforcing state segregation laws. What will the federal government do on and after Jan. 10, 1956?

Already we have seen what federal inaction has resulted in. The White Citizens Councils have emboldened. A Southwide group of racist organizations have been linked in the Federation for Constitutional Liberty. Sen. James O. Eastland father-



ed this group and has established himself as the brain-trust of the racist "local optioners." He has proposed that states with segregation laws ban together and use tax monies for fighting the Supreme Court and the federal government. And recently he has advised that the states go further and declare null and void the 14th Amendment and federal court decisions and laws disturbing segregation.

BUT if 1955 marked a low point in the Congressional fight for civil rights since World War II, the mass movement for civil rights was at its highest point since Reconstruction days. Demands for federal action—including the sending of federal troops—rang from coast to coast. Millions in mass meetings indorsed resolutions calling for unseating the Mississippi Congressional delegation until that state permitted all citizens to vote without restrictions. And these demands were not without their reflections among southern whites either.

In addition to the student demonstrations against attempts

to prevent integrated football games in the New Orleans Sugar Bowl, there arose white voices in Mississippi condemning the murder of Melton. There were also some second looks at the Till murder in Mississippi which produced some penitence. And in Montgomery, Ala., where Negroes are conducting an effective boycott of the city buses because of jimcrow abuses, there have been many white supporters and few active white opponents.

So there was present in the year 1955 the seeds of an expanding democracy. The Southern Negroes were not trekking from their homes. They remained to fight. The demand for civil rights did not wane, either, in the rest of the country.

Indeed, the strongest force in America for civil rights—the united labor movement—made the fight for civil rights its own. Significantly, it was in the AFL-CIO merger convention that Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic Presidential aspirant, received more applause for his implied denunciation of Mississippi terror than for any other section of his speech.

And there were signs, too, that there would be more than psychological ties between the anti-colonialist movement of the free colored nations and the fight for Negro first class citizenship in the United States. So that while the racist terrorists hogged the headlines of 1955 with acts of national shame, the real masters of the country—the people—were quietly demonstrating their superiority which makes their victory inevitable.

PEACE

(Continued from Page 3)

into the anti-Soviet NATO alliance. Although wide areas of agreement were achieved on all questions Dulles refused to admit or set these down unless his view on a rearmed Germany in NATO were accepted.

THE EVENTS that crowded on each other's heels at the end of the year showed that the gleeful shouts in the big business press about the death of the spirit of Geneva would be short-lived. The "corpse" just got out of the prefabricated coffin and clobbered the pall-bearers.

This was clear in the warm friendship and coexistence agreements signed between the government of Norway and the Soviet Union.

It was clear in the tremendous reception given by the people and governments of India, Burma and Afghanistan to the visiting Soviet leaders Bulganin and Khrushchev.

ABOVE all it was clear that the Geneva spirit was alive in the new pressure for peaceful competition between the capitalist and socialist countries for aiding undeveloped India.

How much Dulles' policies harmed America was made clear in an article written at year-end for Look Magazine by Lester B. Pearson, Canadian Secretary for External Affairs. Pearson came back from Russia where he found the Soviet leaders very confident that there would be no war and that in peaceful competition they would show that socialism is a better economic system than capitalism.

Pearson criticized U. S. State Department policy for its reliance on arms and military might. He condemned the support of Chiang Kai-shek and said aiding Chiang's ambitions "on Quemoy and Matsu . . . could conceivably develop into a war." The Chinese government would have to be recognized and receive its rightful seat in the United Nations, Pearson emphasized. And 1956 should be the year.



Happy New Year! Here's a toast to our papers, the Daily Worker and The Worker—"May their message reach out to ever increasing numbers of workers. May they help put our country on the road to peace, democracy and security."

On this Jan. 1, we want to express our thanks and appreciation to all our readers. We hereby issue an invitation to every reader to join the "Lifeliners" for '56. All you have to do is send a regular contribution every month—anything from \$1 a month and up.

Enclosed find \$_____ my first Lifeliner contribution.

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This Week's Lifeliners: NY 17, \$3; HH \$1; MD, \$1; MJ, \$2; KW, \$5; HDG, \$10; Bx, \$1; Local, \$12; LL, \$2; Madison, \$5; Bklyn, \$2; Sam, \$5; K. H'way, \$5; K. H'way, \$6; Jamaica, \$46; NYC, \$2; Sam, \$5; BM, \$5; SL, \$1.

THE CURRENT SCENE

(Continued from Page 8)

ing demands—of realism, he as told an important part of the story of our times, how from across the seas, hungry for gold, savage in their bigoted sense of superiority—there came a cruel and inhuman conqueror, how this light-skinned conqueror made thralls out of a peaceful and dark-skinned people, and how these people, after enduring a toll of blood and suffering beyond computation, rose up in their anger, destroyed the conqueror, and in battle after battle, fought bravely and well for their country's freedom.

This is the story of Mexico; it is also the story of Latin America, of Africa, of India, of China—indeed, of the whole colonial world. And to me, Diego Rivera is the superb painter of

this colonial struggle for liberation. And because it is always the people, first and last the people, who march in his splendid paintings, he will remain a part of the Mexican people forever.

WE TOOK leave of him that day with a sense of having been with a great man. It is not often that I have had the feeling; it is a good feeling to have, a glimpse of the talents and beauties which will one day be omnipresent in the human race. We took leave of an old man, full of sorrow, but also full of hope and courage, and when we looked back at the gates of his house, we caught a glimpse of the flag he had painted there one tragic day and which stood so proudly—the flag of the free Guatemalan people.

Send Your Greetings to Political Prisoners

Cus Hall, Federal Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas; Robert Thompson, Federal Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia; Sid Stein, House of Detention, West St., New York; Carl Ross, Federal Penitentiary, McNeil's Island, Washington; George Myers, Federal Penitentiary, Petersburg, Virginia; Philip Frankfeld, Federal Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia; Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Federal Reformatory for Women, Alderson, West Virginia.

Betty Gannett, Federal Reformatory for Women, Alderson, West Virginia.

Pettis Perry, Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Connecticut.

Jacob "Pop" Mindel, Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Connecticut.

Louis Weinstock, Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury, Connecticut.

Alexander Bittelman, Federal Penitentiary, Atlanta, Georgia.

V. J. Jerome, Federal Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

William Weinstone, Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri.

Arnold Johnson, Federal Penitentiary, Petersburg, Virginia.

Al Lannon, Federal Penitentiary, Petersburg, Virginia.

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Labor in New York

By Herbert Signer

New York Labor Shifted To the Offensive in 1955

1955 - WHAT KIND OF A YEAR? New York unions showed many signs of the changeover from a defensive to an offensive spirit now shaping up in the labor movement.

THERE WERE the organizing drives started by unions in taxi, electrical, department store, bakery, restaurant, hotel, teamsters, furniture, government employees, and others. This comes after some years of stagnation.

New York is largely a union town now, but there is still plenty of organizing left for Father Knickerbocker. Needle trades union were also talking of starting drives among thousands of still non-union workers in the New York area. Organizing is the key to the future of the labor movement.

OUTSTANDING were the giant protest rallies after the lynch murder of young Emmett Till, sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Harlem, and by District 65, Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union in the garment market. These stand out as live symbols of growing labor-Negro unity in action, and of labor's increased consciousness of its role in the mounting struggles for equal rights.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT all year round were the many struggles of the militant and much harassed rank and file dock workers of the Port of New York to protect their hard-won two-year contract against the shipping employers and Bi-State Waterfront Commission; and, along with this, their fight to improve their union, the International Longshoremen's Association. This tough and complex dockers' struggle stands among the most important and courageous in all of New York labor.

FIVE THOUSAND auto workers at two General Motors plants at Tarrytown, N.Y., in a one-week strike after the signing of the national UAW-GM pact, won major gains on local demands through rank and file militancy. UAW pact and local strikes kicked off major labor upsurge in 1955 negotiations in steel, and other unions. Rank and file pressure, as in Tarrytown, paid off.

MILITANCY of shop stewards and rank and file at the big Republic Aviation plant on Long Island brought about a change in union leadership. Organized into the Machinists Union, workers were dissatisfied with failure of old administration to fight vigorously against layoffs and speedup in the aircraft plants in the last year.

ANOTHER SIGN of the times was the stormy opposition of dressmakers of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union



to the new contract signed by their Joint Board officials which dumped the unions' official wage demands. Some 85,000 workers were ready to strike March 1 in what would have been the first dressmakers' walk-out since 1933. The fighting spirit expressed by the dressmakers at shop chairman and membership meetings and in the shops, were on a scale the likes of which hadn't been seen for years. This indicated new times shaping up in the ILGWU, which has some 175,000 members in New York, and is one of the largest unions.

HIGHLIGHTS of labor's legislative action during the year were: NYC CIO-sponsored conference of 500 shop stewards to push the minimum wage fight; delegation of AFL unionists to Gov. Harriman on state issues; state CIO legislative conference in Albany; mass lobby and victory for the Baker-Metcalf anti-discrimination bill; Retail union's unprecedented lobby of some 650 delegates to Washington (about half from New York) on the minimum wage fight; and the outstanding year-round teachers fight on pay increases, the witchhunt and school crisis.

Major lack was united labor action on state and federal issues agreed on by all sections of the labor movement, but there is hope this unity will be achieved in coming legislative struggles in view of AFL-CIO merger nationally, and local negotiations starting now.

WHEN THE Nazi-led Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra was brought to the USA for a tour, the powerful Musicians Union, Local 802, CIO Council, Jewish Labor Committee and other groups, sparked a mass protest which started in New York and spread throughout the nation. The tour, regarded as a State Department political move to build up support in the USA for German rearmament, was a financial flop.

The musicians' action was initiated through a petition of some 1,000 union members. Another sign of this rising democratic spirit in the entertainment world was the election for executive board of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, when a middle-of-the-road slate opposed to blacklisting won a big majority and ousted open supporters of the McCarthyite outfit Aware, Inc.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 1955: The Transport Workers

Selected TV, Movie Guide

TV
Saturday, Dec. 31
On the Carousel (2) 9 am
Mighty Mouse Playhouse (2) 11
Big Top (2) Noon
Movie Museum (9) Noon
Football: Gator Bowl-Auburn vs. Vanderbilt (2) 2
Blue-Gray Football (4) 2:15
Movie: Three Husbands (9) 5, 7:30 and 10. Light comedy
News (2) 6
Lucy Show (2) 6:30
Big Surprise-Quiz (4) 7:30
Stage Show-The Dorseys and Guests. Count Basie, Others
Perry Como Show (4) 8
The Honeymooners-Gleason & Co. (2) 8:30
Hockey: Rangers-Boston (11) 9
Jimmy Durante Show (4) 9:30
Gunsmoke-western (2) 10
George Gobel Show (4) 10
Damon Runyon Theatre (2) 10:30
Your Hit Parade (4) 10:30
New York's In N. Y. (2) 11:15
New Year's Program (4) 11:15
Spirit of '56 (7) 11:30
Times Sq. Pickup (7) 11:50
Best of '55 (7) Midnight. Variety
Movie: Topper (4) 12:15 (1937 revival)

TV
Sunday, Jan. 1
Charity Bailey Show (4) 10 am
Children's Hour (4) 10:30
Eye on New York (2) 11
Movie Museum (9) 11
Camera Three (2) 11:30. 6th episode of Crime & Punishment
New York Year (2) 2:30
Dr. Spock-noted pediatrician (4) 3
Children's Fantasy-Over the Rainbow (9) 3
Adventure (2) 3:30. Museum of Natural History
Zoo Parade (4) 3:30
Years of Crisis-Edward Murrow and CBS Corr. (2) 4
Wide Wide World (4) 4
Cavalcade of 1955 (11) 4
College Press Conference (7) 4:30
Omnibus (2) 5. Kabuki Dancers, etc.
Super Circus (7) 5
Movie: Three Husbands (9) 5, 7:30 and 10
Meet the Press (4) 6
You Are There (2) 6:30. Benedict Arnold's Treason
Lassie (2) 7
Big Playback-Sports Thrills (11) 7
Jack Benny (2) 7:30

Union campaign on the issues of racism, racketeering and raiding in connection with the AFL-CIO merger. . . Victories against jimmecrow in employment in two unions, a brewery local and bakery drivers, both in the Teamsters. . . Work stoppages the year-round in departments of the big Schenectady plant of General Electric, organized into IUE, with workers pressing on grievances all the way. . . The ILA-Teamsters mutual assistance pact, opening up a new stage in longshore struggles. . . Merger of the Fur union into the Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union. . . The strike of UE Local 475 in Bloomfield, N.J., featuring CIO and AFL solidarity. . . Campaign of the Hotel & Restaurant Union for New York solidarity with the Miami Beach strike and organizing drive. . . CIO conference on juvenile delinquency. . . state AFL and CIO fight at the state conference on education. . . Heroism of building construction workers when Coliseum collapsed, resulting in many injuries and one death. . . Legislative actions of Hotel Trades Council and especially Local 6. . . Negro-labor protest over failure of the State Commission Against Discrimination to enforce the law vigorously, resulting finally in Harriman's appointment of Charles Abrams as new chairman. . .

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-Rose and Children.

Spectacular-Happy New Year (4) 7:30
Movie: Red Shoes (English) Part Two. Ballet
Ed Sullivan Show (2) 8
Spanish Variety (13) 8
Portrait of a Ballerina (2) 9
Eddie Albert in Rise up and Walk (4) 9
Alfred Hitchcock (2) 9:30
Spanish Show (13) 9:30
Loretta Young Show (4) 10
What's My Line-Quiz (2) 10:30
RADIO
Saturday, Dec. 31
Monitor WRCA Noon to midnight
Metropolitan Opera-Verdi's Aida WABC 2
Football: Gator Bowl-Auburn vs. Vanderbilt WBCS 2:05
Football: Blue-Gray-Alabama WOR 2:15
Football: East-West Shrine Game WOR 5
Hockey: Rangers-Boston WINS 8:30
Philadelphia Orchestra WBCS 9:05
Oklahoma City Symphony WOR 10
RADIO
Sunday, Jan. 1
Monitor WRCA Noon to midnight
World Affairs Report WBCS 12:15
Opera: Strauss' Die Fledermaus Wor 1:30
Symphonette WBCS 2
NY Philharmonic-David Oistrakh, violinist WBCS 2:30
Years of Crisis-Edward R. Mur-

Synagogue in Bronx Wrecked

Rabbi David S. Savitz found his synagogue at 718 Bryant Ave., the Bronx, wrecked by vandals when he returned to it on Tuesday.

Holy books were torn to shreds, some 100 panes of window glass were broken, pictures had been ripped from the walls, the walls themselves as well as the ceiling, had been torn into, and memorial glass shattered.

Rabbi Savitz said that every time there is a holiday which takes children away from school "something happens." "That kind of venom," Rabbi Savitz said, "I've never seen before. . . I don't understand. The clergy's failed someplace."

Rabbi Davitz said he could understand if children stole things, rather than just destroy. And he could not understand why it was

Sonny Terry on New Year's Eve

The harmonica magic of Sonny Terry will help welcome in the New Year at People's Artists New Year's Eve Hootenanny and Dance at The Pythian Hall this Saturday night. The almost legendary blind Negro harmonica player who has thrilled audiences all over the country will join the midnight songfest direct from the Broadway theatre where he is currently appearing in "Cat On A Tin Roof."

Others in the cast of Hooteneers who will sing "sing out the old and sing in the new" are Betty Sanders, Jerry Silverman, Juanita Cascone and Herman Autrey. Before and after the midnight hoot there will be dancing to Herman Autrey's orchestra.

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row, CBS Corr. WBCS 5:05
Meet the Press WRCA 6
Gunsmoke-western WBCS 6:30
Edgar Bergen Show WBCS 7:05
America's Town Meeting WABC 8
Our Miss Brooks WBCS 8:05

MOVIES
Umberto D (Italian) 50th St. Guild
Oklahoma, Rivoli
Conflict (Russian) Stanley. Also Russian Holiday (Sports)
Kismet, Music Hall
Heidi and Peter, Little Carnegie
Diabolique (French) Fine Arts
Tales of Hoffman, 68th St.
New Charlie Chaplin Festival, 72nd St.
Gate of Hell (Japanese) Sat. only
Beverly, 59th St. and 3rd Ave.
Le Plaisir (French) 5th Ave. Also Pearls of Crown
Gate of Hell, Symphony, Heights
They Met In Moscow (1946 revival), Club Cineha-Fri. Sat. Sun 8:30 and 10

DRAMA
Red Roses For Me, by Sean O'Casey, Booth
The Lark, Longacre
Trouble in Mind by Alice Childress, Greenwich Mews
Chekhov's Cherry Orchard, 4th St.
Inherit the Wind with Paul Muni, National
Bus Stop, Music Box
Plain and Fancy, Hellinger
View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller, Coronet
Three Penny Opera, Theatre de Lys
Diary of Anne Frank, Cort
Macbeth, Jan Hus Auditorium, Sunday-last day.
No Time for Sergeants, Alvin
Tiger at the Gates, Helen Hayes Theatre
C. B. Shaw's A Village Wooing, Davenport
Comedy in Music-Victor Borge, Golden
Amato Opera House, 159 Bleecker St. GR 7-2844. Free.
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JOHN GATES EUGENE DENNIS

Editor-Daily Worker Gen'l Secy., CPUSA

about n. y.

by michael singer

The VIP Asked a Question— And Got Two Answers

THE OFFICE parties of the politicians and the VIPs who control the city's purse-strings and policies are like all other Christmas holiday festivities . . . tongues are loosened, inhibitions dissolve, frustrations burst open, long-frozen ideals are thawed and rise up like champagne bubbles to startle listeners.

It was during one of these let-our-hair-down intimacies that a prominent office-holder asked us if we thought 1955 was a "credit or a debit" for the City Hall Administration.

We said we thought that the Wagner regime had come to the year's end on a sour note—broken promises, stalled programs, retreats on principle, surrender to witchhunters, compromises with reaction, phony pie-in-the-sky budgeting, and "all in all a sad reflection of what could have been the best Administration we ever had."

One red-faced VIP, his voice husky and belligerent, challenged us. "You're always looking for utopia," he shouted, "but this is a business, like any other business. We're not angels and we're not geniuses."

Another said, "Show us where we did wrong. Prove we aren't the best and most progressive politicians that ever ran City Hall."

And still another pleaded: "Aren't we on the side of labor? Don't the tenants like us? Haven't we always looked on the humane side of government?"

At a Christmas party it's impossible to prove anything—except maybe that it's time to go home. But we were convinced that these Wagner aides deep down had their own doubts. So we went down the list—from the Judge Delany and 'loyalty oath' eviction orders to betrayals on promises for a Bedford-Stuyvesant inter-racial hospital; from broken pledges on school construction to continued harassment and persecution of democratic teachers; from pie-in-the-sky housing plans to the actual Title I conspiracy against working-class communities; from fare commitments to the 15 cent bus ride increase, on and on and on.

The red-faced VIP erupted. "You won't be happy until the city gets something like La Guardia again. You don't want compromise, you want perfection—p-e-r-f-e-c-t-i-o-n."

And then a clerk, hardworking and underpaid, who overheard the discussion, said:

"What's perfection to ask that a billion dollar budget give us a decent wage? And what's perfection to insist that liberalism come back to City Hall? And what's perfection about hoping that Mayor Wagner stick to the people who elected him, instead of to these three-button Brooks



Brother geniuses and has-been politicians?"

"At any rate," we said to the VIP, "there's still another year coming up. The Wagner Administration has labor support and the good will of most of the people. With that kind of set-up you guys could do a lot for the tenants, the strap-hangers, for labor. You could make progress in solving the housing, educational and juvenile problems. And don't forget a lot of folks in New York are expecting just

The VIP grinned ruefully and went off to get himself a drink.

THE WEEK IN CIVIL LIBERTIES

• Witchhunt Book Out • Blumberg on Trial

A BOOKLET issued by Senator Eastland's Internal Security subcommittee is the latest addition to government witchhunt literature. Titled "A Handbook for Americans," the 100-page booklet purports to tell "what the Communist Party is—and how it works." The document is similar in theme to the Army pamphlet "How to Spot a Communist" which was withdrawn from use last June after liberal organizations assailed it as a threat to civil liberties. The book lauds informers and urges the average American to spy out alleged Communists, mainly in community organizations, unions, and mass organizations.

DR. ALBERT BLUMBERG, national legislative director of the Communist Party, will go on trial Jan. 30, in Philadelphia on an indictment for "membership" under the Smith Act. A committee for his defense in Philadelphia has been formed, headed by Miss Elizabeth Frazier, 8024 Roanoke St. and is raising funds for the trial which they term a trial "for the crime of thinking."

PENSION payments were restored to James Kutcher, legless World War II veteran, after the New York Post revealed that the Veterans Administration had suspended his checks. Kutcher was penalized for his membership in the Socialist Workers Party, a group listed on the attorney-general's so-called list of "subversive" organizations. Kutcher has previously lost a government clerk's job which he held, and only recently won a court fight against being evicted from a public housing project in Newark, where a loyalty oath was

ABNER BERRY

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Authority on Negro Affairs

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AFL-CIO Merger Will Have Big Impact on Legislature

By MICHAEL SINGER

ALBANY—The Presidential campaign and Gov. Harriman's White House ambitions appear to be the cornerstone of legislative programs shaping up in each party for the 1956 State Legislature. Already, GOP leaders are using advance reports of Harriman's tax reduction recommendations to charge him with seeking to "bolster his sagging chances for the Democratic presidential nomination." Democrats, on the other hand, are certain to be influenced in their legislative soundings by how much noise these will make on the national election scene on behalf of Harriman.

Regardless of this political overtone, the major impact in the Legislature will come from the AFL-CIO merger. The state labor bodies have not yet formally united and no joint legislative program has yet been projected, but Republican and Democratic legislators are quick to acknowledge that the newly-merged labor movement can have decisive import in shaping legislation beginning here on Wednesday.

HIGH on the list of labor's legislative demands are increased unemployment benefits with aid to dependents and a longer compensation period; substantial improve-



HARRIMAN

ments in the Workmen's Compensation Law and Sickness and Disability Act; a vast \$500,000,000 or more school subsidy program; an immediate expansion in the low-rent and middle-income housing policy; making the State Commission Against Discrimination's new powers into housing bias enforceable by providing it with adequate agency personnel and funds; a public power program to counter the encroachment on electrification resources by private utilities; revision of the state aid formula for municipalities and New York City; salary increases for civil service employees and teachers; and a move to reapportion the state's legislative seats to eliminate present up-state-city inequalities.

Both the AFL and CIO have presented many of these recommendations in separate legislative reports of previous years. Always, however, the lack of labor cohesion has mitigated against effective action. This time there is a strong possibility that the AFL-CIO may crack through and obtain a good share of their program.

IMMEDIATELY after Feb. 1 when the Harriman Administration presents its 1956 budget a major battle on the pending \$50,000,000 income tax cut proposals is certain. Democrats who still are in the minority in both Assembly and Senate, although with enough increased number to uphold a gubernatorial veto of Republican measures, have suggested a tax cut plan that calls for a \$5 "credit" for each taxpayer and each dependent, amounting to \$40,000,000, and another \$10,000,000 in "humanizing" exemptions for the old, sick, blind, working mothers, and families with heavy medical obligations.

Republicans will counter with their own \$50,000,000 tax cut version — a percentage formula that favors the higher income brackets. Under the GOP program a married

taxpayer with two children would "save" \$22 a year if he earned \$10,000 a year and \$581 in tax cuts for those in the \$100,000 a year bracket. But for the same three-dependent taxpayer in the \$4,000 to \$9,000 income range, the GOP proposes to continue their "forgiveness" plea of 1955 at a rate of 60 cents to \$17 a year in tax reductions.

Gov. Harriman suggests that taxpayers in this income category get a \$20 tax cut regardless of earning.

THERE are many Democrats, particularly those from low-income New York City and western New York industrial areas, who aren't happy with the Governor's tax-relief formula. "It doesn't begin to go far enough in easing the living cost and tax burdens of the people," said a legislator from the Bronx.

Despite such protestations, however, there is no chance of a more far-reaching tax cut plan that would shift the levy from the low to high income earners, unless Labor swings into action. Reports have been shifting into Administration offices here that the Jan. 9 state CIO legislative conference may urge a more equitable relief plan than the \$20 across-the-board recommendation of Harriman.

Aside from the tax battle and the skirmishes expected over the New York City demands for increased state aid, most of the legislative action will probably center on the anticipated \$90,000,000 state aid boost for schools to be urged by the Heald Commission, compulsory automobile insurance, and allocation of the \$90 to \$100 million state surplus.

THE BUDGET and fiscal debates involve housing, schools, social welfare improvements, civil service and teacher pay rises, special aid to handicapped and non-English speaking students, funds to combat discrimination in jobs, housing and education, expanded benefits for unemployed, sick and injured workers and problems of the Aged.

Republicans will also center a great deal of their attack on Harriman's program for elderly people and his policies on juvenile delinquency. Both are priority points in the governor's legislative program and he held several statewide conferences on these issues to project himself into national prominence on these issues. His recommendations for the aged calls for special studies of employment, housing, social welfare and rehabilitation and GOP legislative leaders have indicated they will oppose his plan as "utopian" and beyond the realm of financial possibility.

Good Luck, George An Editorial

George Mason retires Thurs. after 31 years as a composing room machinist for the Daily Worker, and devoted member of "Big 6" Typographical Union. The staff and management of the paper wish him the best of luck.

what's on

NEW YEAR'S EVE Dance and entertainment, featuring Vic Carlton and his orchestra. Sat., Dec. 31 at 9 p.m. Buffet supper. Brighton Community Center, 3200 Coney Island Ave., Brooklyn. Contribution \$1.50 in advance, \$1.75 at door.

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New Year's Eve

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JANUARY 1, 1956
Price 10 Cents

★ ★ A ★ ★
Happy New Year

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then the van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in the people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Johnny Gates, visited The Worker office last Tuesday a few hours after their "protective custody" expired.

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party, the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

(Continued on Page 4)



Joseph North and John Gates.



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workingmen.

Fearfully awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

(Continued on Page 12)

Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly locked in a struggle over basically the same issues.

At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-won wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly about a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

(Continued on Page 13)

Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH!

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where, "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Hederman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation.

Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

(Continued on Page 13)

New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week — \$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.) — \$41,675.48
Still to go — \$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to
P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station,
New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if
in New York, bring them to 35
E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.

Strike Vote on Speedup, DeSoto

DETROIT.—A 40 percent increase in production standards has been thrown at the DeSoto-Chrysler workers on the West Side here and six UAW-AFL-CIO members have been fired for "holding the line" and refusing to make the speedup.

A strike vote will be taken on Jan. 4-5 among the several thousand members of UAW-AFL-CIO Local 227.

Syl Sumeracki, president of the local said that he expected other workers would be fired by the "Forward Look" Chrysler corporation, because the workers just aren't getting to give the company that kind of production.

It's a clear-cut example of asking workers to work themselves out of jobs and onto the unemployment compensation lines. With the 1956 cars not selling, a production increase of 40 percent demanded of the workers, means simply layoffs come quicker. Besides fighting such a man-killing speedup the workers have their eye on shorter work weeks with no cuts in pay as the answer, not speedup and layoffs.

Worker Works With Broken Arm at GM

To the Editor:

In Dept. 6, at Fleetwood plant recently a foreign-born worker who came here from the Polish Ukraine in 1939, broke his left arm just above the wrist when he was carrying material which is used on the body. He slipped and fell, breaking his arm.

His work operation is a scraper, brusher and he uses sand paper, rag wipers, steel wood and plastic scrapers on both sides of the car body. He also has to clean rubber and pull down the trunk lid with one hand and wipe it off with the other.

He missed one, one day and the foreman, named Berlin bawled him out saying, "you want to go back to Russia?" The worker replied in broken English that he couldn't help it. The company gave him a one-day penalty lay-off.

He worked three weeks with a broken arm and then the company found out, bawled him out for not reporting what happened.

The union, UAW Local 15 is processing a grievance on this brutality. The worker it discovered worked with one arm in a cast but the company found him "not keeping up," they keep giving him more work and this caused him to get behind again. He again got another day layoff reprimand.

Finally he called his committeeman and the beef is now in the process of negotiations.

And GM says everyone is just one BIG FAMILY at General Motors.

Have You Got a New Reader

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

"I Speak My Own Piece"

Autobiography of "The Rebel Girl"

Cloth \$2.75

Popular \$1.75

Berenson Bookstore 2419 Grand River

Canadian GM Strikers Seek End of Wage Differences

OSHAWA, Ont.—The strike of 17,000 UAW-General Motors workers here is now three months old. Levelling out wage differentials between workers in various GM plants and between like trades in higher paid sections of the auto industry is one of the beefs.

An example of these rate difference is the labor rate at Chrysler is \$1.66; and \$1.62 at Ford while at GM it is \$1.51. Oshawa strikers want a \$1.60 labor rate.

Wages for workers classified as "boys" (19 years and under) and women were another big issue being fought out by the union in Oshawa. Until all these inequities

are straightened out says the union, negotiations cannot move on to issues, like paid health and welfare or wages, across the board.

The union says that there are certain demands they cannot retreat on, full paid social security, eight paid holidays, which are standard in Canadian contracts, a substantial across the board increase above the 5 cent improvement factor and a clause to guard against speedup.

Disturbing to many of the Canadian unionists is the lack of publicity and support to the rugged strike by the International in Detroit.

State PAC Meet: Lansing, Jan. 27-28

LANSING.—Many hundreds of labor delegates from CIO and AFL unions will gather here January 27-28, Friday and Saturday, to map out program and candidates for the 1956 election campaign in Michigan.

Main speaker will be U.S. Senator Pat McNamara who will outline program and tactics for the 1956 elections here.

The conference will convene

two weeks after the start of the second session of the Michigan Legislature is looked upon as a rally point for legislation, state and nationally.

Topics to be discussed at the Saturday round-tables will be: civil rights, FEPC, workmen's compensation, unemployment compensation, state labor legislation, reapportionment.

News Lockout, Strike Enters 5th Week

DETROIT.—As we go to press a solid front of a number of Detroit's newspaper unions is still fighting all the way for a wage increase (\$6 a week), against speedup, and to block moves by the publishers to weaken newspaper unions at the Times, Free Press and Detroit News.

The lockout and strike at the three newspapers is now in its fifth week and affects over 4,000 newspaper workers from mostly nine unions. A pact of concerted action exists between some of them, pledging they will not return until all the demands of all are met and backpay is paid to the workers.

Meanwhile two unions, the mailers and pressmen "chickened" out on the other newspaper unions, by signing an agreement with the publishers to accept \$3.50 a week raise and accepting a contract to March 1, 1957.

The \$3.50 had been offered to Typos, Stereotypers and other "back shop" unions but they had scornfully refused it, pointing to the enormous profits the publishers had sweated out of the workers.

Also these unions are holding out for a contract to expire, Dec. 1, 1956 so that it strengthens the hand of union negotiators next year when they meet this tough crew of publishers whose "sugar daddies" and subsidizers are so obviously the auto trusts.

MEANWHILE the newspaper

Guild, union of reporters, editorial, business, advertising and maintenance workers which has been locked out by the publishers following the Dec. 1 strike action of the Stereotypers union, has opened its own negotiations with the Free Press and Times.

At the Free Press a 35-hour week is being asked by the Guild with no cut in pay, improved health and security additions and a wage increase. At the Times (Hearst) a wage opener allows wage talks to open Jan. 1.

The Detroit Reporter, official newspaper of the striking unions and locked out workers is still publishing 100,000 copies a day and has more advertising than it can handle. It has a sizeable bank account and is widely read though it's bending over backward to be "impartial."

One of the root causes of the strike by the Stereotypers, is that the publishers want 10 hours work in a 7½-hour day. They want the print shop workers to turn out color work alongside of their regular day's work and get nothing extra for it. Or they want to take them off regular work and place some of them on color work, leaving the remainder to do the work of all. This the Stereos say is outright speedup and they wouldn't agree to it.

They asked extra men be put on, or overtime be paid. The Stereotypers have won an agreement on their demands, waiting only for the publishers to agree to a \$6 a week wage boost. Their new contract will expire Nov. 30, 1956 instead of Dec. 31, as asked by management. Typos are now negotiating their demands.

Seek Medical Plan For GI Dependents

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Rep. Carl Vinson (D-Ga) today called for a government backed insurance plan to help provide medical care for dependents of GI's.

AUTOTOWN ALLEY

HENRY'S PIE. Here in figures is the profit wrung from the bodies of Ford workers since the postwar years of 1947.

YEAR	PROFITS
1947	\$ 62,700,000
1948	96,000,000
1949	177,700,000
1950	260,300,000
1951	126,100,000
1952	116,800,000
1953	165,800,000
1954	227,800,000
1955 for 9 months	312,000,000

This is after taxes were paid.

CANADA. As a Xmas "gift" to his 7,000 Windsor Ford workers, Henry II, the "great humanitarian" gave the workers a 10 day layoff with of course no pay, beating them at the same time out of holiday pay.

"GOODFELLOWS" The Goodfellows who collect Xmas money for kids by selling newspapers (this last time it was a scab paper, they wouldn't use the union put out Detroit Reporter) have been caught discriminating. The children designated for gifts are picked by the city's welfare workers who this year were told to designate the race. Thus charged one welfare worker, Negro children got inferior gifts. Walter (Spike) Briggs of Jimcrow Detroit Tigers, ill-fame was this year's chairman of the Goodfellows Xmas fund.

DELEGATION. A group of Negro women leaders met recently with U. S. Attorney General Brownell and said, "you must tell us, Mr. Attorney General, what we shall tell the women who sent us here what we shall do about the women in Mississippi and other Southern States who want to vote and are afraid for their lives." Brownell had no answer.

PROGRESS. Michigan instead of building low cost public housing for its many thousands of citizens who are living doubled up or in sub-standard housing, is going to build new prisons in the state, one of which will be to hold 300 new young offenders.

VICTORY. A Negro woman was hired for the first time in the personnel department at Packard. Spark plug behind the hiring was Frank Bell, UAW member of the Local FEPC Committee.

CONFERENCE. The National Lobby called by the NAACP and being backed by UAW in Washington has been moved up to the last week in February or the first week in March, its learned.

WHEW. The State Conservation Commission in Lansing has approved transfer of 8,000 acres of good state land in the AuSable State Forest west of Kalkaska valued at approximately, \$250,000 to the Army Air Force for a jet base, for the sum of \$1. The value of the land is estimated at \$250,000.

BUDGET. A record \$264 million dollar budget will be asked this year by the City Hall gang. Not a nickel in that proposed budget is for wage increase for city workers.

RAIDING. A raid by the UAW on the Square D plant where the UE has a contract will kickoff when a NLRB hearing will be held Dec. 29. Involved are UAW, IUE and UE and the Operating Engineers. Paul Silvers is Local 351 will be the local bidding to get the Square D workers.

DETROIT REPORTER. The daily newspaper being put out by the locked out newspaper men and printing unions is now soluble. It has over \$32,000 in the bank. Pays its reporters \$84 a week, has a staff of 100, and is getting more advertising than it can handle.

REPORTER. The newspaper reporter who wrote the story of Ford having assets of nearly \$2½ billion was one of the newsmen who has been locked out for several weeks by the publishers. He told this reporter that it was a new experience for him to write about Ford's \$312 million in profit after taxes, \$3 million being cut up by 11 executives. It was new because he hadn't gotten a penny in wages for weeks and was dead broke. The story was for the Detroit Reporter.

HCL. Cost of living has risen in Detroit 0.3 percent from October to December. Increases were 3.5 percent for medical care; 2.0 for transportation, 0.3 for apparel.

OFFICE WORKERS. Since the news is abroad that the AFL-CIO intend to start a huge national organizing campaign of office workers, Detroit wages of office workers have risen as bosses start handing out raises and notes to employees about what a good firm such and such is to work for.

TRICK. The latest trick of the "Red Squad" snoopers and spies from the Mayor's "Loyalty Committee" is to call people on the phone and say they are a newspaper reporter. Watch for this gag, its a fake.

UNITY. On Jan. 10, the 20 man unity committee of the Michigan Labor movement will have its first official meeting. There will be 10 from CIO headed by Gus Scholle and 10 from AFL headed by George Dean. The Teamsters and others will also be there as well as the Wayne County Federation of Labor leaders who are smoking a pipe of peace with the Teamsters. The unity convention will be in June in Grand Rapids.



Quality Food at Reasonable Prices

DETROIT WORKMEN'S COOPERATIVE RESTAURANTS

First Branch: 2934 YEMANS

Second Branch: 9238 JOSEPH CAMPAU

Winchester Arms Workers, Connecticut Lux Clock, Vote Union

By SID RESNICK

NEW HAVEN.—The NLRB election victories of the IAM at the Winchester Arms Co. in New Haven and of the UAW at the Lux Clock Co. in Waterbury just before the old year rang out, realized a long cherished dream of the Connecticut trade union movement.

After several attempts by the company to delay the National Labor Relations Board election, the Winchester workers voted 3,179 to 789 for the International Association of Machinists.

The Winchester Arms plant of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp., the largest New Haven factory, has since 1866 been a notorious open shop fortress undermining the position of all trade unions in the area. Winchester's non-union status helped make New Haven a lower wage city in comparison to Hartford, Waterbury or Bridgeport.

The 4 to 1 victory margin of the Machinists Association was a pleasant contrast to previous failures in organizing Winchester's. The combination of a company patronage system and company intimidation, proved too hard a nut to crack in earlier unionization drives. However the experiences gained in these unsuccessful efforts were not lost to the workers and helped turn the tide this time.

AS ALWAYS, almost solid union support came from the foundry where a large percentage of Negro workers are employed. Resentment against the company among the majority of the workers skyrocketed earlier last year after the management started a job-retraining campaign which resulted in wage cuts, in some cases as high as 20 percent, and in increased speed-up.

The IAM's petition drive picked

up steam as it began concentrating on a clear cut 2-point program—organize the shop on an industrial basis, equal pay for equal work, a demand which answered the needs of many women workers, and a promise of strict enforcement of an FEP clause in the contract.

The recent merger of the AFL and CIO has also been credited by many for the union victory. Victor Kalaski, Grand Lodge representative for the Machinists Association, said the result was "inevitable" and "a great labor victory."

THE MACHINISTS' efforts were aided by most of the CIO and AFL locals in New Haven and were supported by many Negro

community leaders. In addition, Joseph Cronin, Hartford's Democratic mayor-elect and an IAM business agent, personally participated at union rallies the day before the vote.

A campaign for membership is now in progress under the direction of William Albrecht. The new lodge number is 609. Another petition drive among the large office force has been started by the AFL Clerks union.

The Lux Clock Co. in Waterbury was one of the few remaining non-union shops in the city and the vote for the UAW was 504 to 319. John J. Driscoll, Sid Monti and Martin Greenberg were on the staff which conducted this successful UAW drive.

The Strange Career of An FBI Santa Claus

NEW HAVEN.—The fourth FBI informer witness to appear against the eight Smith Act defendants on trial here is one, Worden Mosher, a Hamden TV store operator. A

nervous, non-descript character, Worden Mosher and his son Harold were expelled from the New Haven Communist Party organization in August 1950 on the suspicion of being FBI agents, for making anti-Negro remarks and distributing pornographic pictures.

While serving his FBI masters from 1939 to 1950, Mosher or Make Spencer, as he used to be

known, performed one of the lowest acts in the stoolpigeon trade.

On several occasions when the New Haven organization of the Communist Party conducted its annual Christmas-Chanukah parties, Mosher played the Santa Claus, whiskers, costume and all, and distributed gifts to the children who frolicked about him.

"Call me Uncle Mike," Mosher would then admonish the little children, whose names he no doubt turned over to the FBI, together with the names of their parents.

Apparently trying to keep a good thing in the family, the elder Mosher brought his son into the stoolpigeon business in 1947. Together, this father and son team made money on the side by spying on the public activities of the progressive movement in New Haven. In addition, they turned over to the FBI the names of those workers whom they first induced to read or subscribe to this newspaper.

Though some Connecticut newspapers insisted on terming Mosher a "surprise witness," his appearance was anticipated in previous statements issued by the Connecticut Volunteers for Civil Rights and by the defendants.

Flood Session Taxes People

HARTFORD.—The recent special session of the General Assembly placed the burden of repairing the August and October flood destruction on the backs of the Connecticut working people.

Connecticut flood recovery costs were set at \$35,500,000. Instead of putting the burden on the Federal government and the profit-laden corporations in the state, the legislature raised the Sales Tax from 3 percent to 3½ percent for nine months, raised the cigarette tax from 3 cents to 4 cents per package for nine months, placed a nine-month 12½ cent surtax on amusements, extended the 2 cents a gallon gasoline tax for an additional year and added a nine-month 20 percent surtax on liquor.

While the legislators placed a modest 12½ cent surtax on 1955 tax returns of corporations, public utilities and domestic insurance companies, they also granted a one-year full deduction of flood damage and loss from corporations' business tax.

Pressure from labor succeeded more equitable tax legislation.

Special Session for Rent Control

By ROBERT C. EKINS

The GOP controlled House turned its back on demands from organized labor, pleas from city councils and petitions from the people and kicked the lid off



rent controls.

Some 350,000 families in 34 communities including flood ravaged areas and every large city in the state will be directly affected. 73 percent of the state's population live in rent controlled areas.

Fear is widespread that rents will double and treble in many sections. With the rent control law off the books evictions will become easier and more numerous.

Real estate and big landlord interests have been baying like a pack of wolves at the state legislature for several years. If their bark is now silent it is because they are preparing to bite, come March 31 when the controls will be off.

The only prospect of holding on to rent controls now will be through calling a special session of the General Assembly in March since the Republican House killed an amendment which would enable cities and towns to enact local rent control measures.

No time can be lost in spur-

ring the demand for a special session. To be successful this will require the combined and sustained efforts of all trade unions and other people's organizations, the action of city councils and boards of aldermen as well as intensified action on the part of rent control committees which are spontaneously forming in areas which will be hardest hit by decontrol.

Since another special session would be the third since the regular session last spring, it is obvious that speed and the broadest demands and pressures are essential to success. Democratic members will have to exert themselves to press Gov. Abraham Ribicoff to call a special session. All legislators should be visited and held to account on this question.

Special demands and pressures must be brought to bear on Republican legislators, including the majority who come from small towns where the rent control problem is not so acute.

Those hardest hit would be thousands of brass workers in the Naugatuck valley, aircraft, metal, rubber and white collar workers in the larger cities, and textile and shipyard workers in Eastern Connecticut. Many Negro and Puerto Rican workers, always hardest hit, are involved.

If the demands of all these workers are properly organized and put forward, the fight for rent controls can be crowned with victory.

Conn, CIO Meet Will Spur Political Action

NEW HAVEN.—Joint political action by the state CIO and AFL in the "crucially important 1956 election campaign" was forecast in the Call to the 18th Annual Convention of

the Connecticut CIO to be held in Hartford on Jan. 20, 21 and 22.

Among the special targets of the labor movement in this year's election is the defeat at the polls of the reactionary Republican Congressman Sadlak, Morano, Patterson, Cretella and Seeley-Brown.

Predicting the complete merger of the AFL and CIO on a state level in two years, the CIO convention call states:

"The merger goal of the state organization should result in much closer ties between the State CIO and State AFL even before the merger takes place. As a result of

these closer ties, there is the possibility of joint action by the two state organizations in the crucially important 1956 election campaign."

As regards political action, many trade unionists have begun to favor the idea of the labor movement starting now to advance its own program for the election campaign, as well as to influence the choice of the candidates, instead of merely accepting whatever Democrats are put up by the conservative machine forces.

The CIO Call also stresses the need for "flood control measures which will have a dual purpose, such as up-river dams to develop hydroelectric power at the same time that they hold back flood waters." The Call urges "all the energy which organized labor can muster" to defeat the opposition to these projects from the New England power interests.

It is also hoped that this convention will finally end the lily-white character of the top State CIO Council by electing a Negro vice-president or member.

ANOTHER important issue which the convention is expected to act on is the extension of rent control which is due to expire on March 31. Many active unionists are already urging that the reluctant Gov. Ribicoff call another special session of the General Assembly before the expiration date to prolong rent control in the state.

Though this may be the last separate convention of the CIO, many workers are pleased at the prospects and potentialities of a trade union movement in Connecticut which will be a quarter of a million strong, after the AFL, CIO and IAM join forces.

Nutmeg Notes

BRIDGEPORT.—"Full moral and financial support for the Bridgeport Westinghouse strikers," was voted by the CIO Industrial Union Council here, according to a statement by Tom William, Council president. The Bridgeport Westinghouse local which is affiliated with the UE, (Ind.), also received \$100 from the CIO Council for its Christmas party for the strikers' children.

HARTFORD.—Mary Martin was reelected president of the Underwood Typewriter Lodge 350, IMA. Also, a Negro worker was elected to the Executive Board for the first time.

STAMFORD.—The Bulletin of Holy Name of Jesus Roman Catholic Church asked its members "not to sell your homes to agents sent out by Negroes." A spokesman for the Bridgeport Diocese said the statement was "unauthorized."

OAKVILLE.—The UAW is beginning an organization drive at the Autoyre Co., John J. Driscoll, sub-regional director of the

union announced. Autoyre is a chromium fixtures plant.

HARTFORD.—Eulalios Torres, of the Puerto Rican Dept. of Labor, speaking before the Hartford Community Council, charged that unscrupulous landlords are taking advantage of the newly arrived Puerto Rican immigrants. Some 2,000 Puerto Ricans live here now.

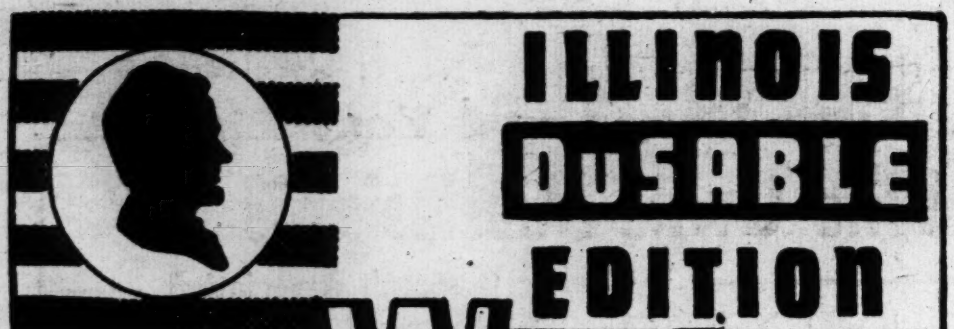
FAIRFIELD.—Many Conn. people resent the Republican Congressman Morano's support of the Portuguese imperialists against the just claims of the Indian people. Speaking of Goa, the Portuguese colony in India, Morano is reported to have said, "Why, Goa has been a Portuguese colony for 500 years. I understand the majority of the people are Portuguese, not Indian."

NEW HAVEN.—Mrs. Mamie Till Bradley, mother of murdered Emmett Till, spoke at a meeting at the Trinity Temple Church of God in Christ.

BRIDGEPORT.—The Bill of Rights and of the Conn. Communist Party which appeared in the "Sunday Herald" received widespread favorable comment.

HARTFORD.—Owen Lattimore, declared before a meeting of 800 people here that the world "is edging away from war toward some kind of competitive co-existence." The local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union which sponsored appearance, was offered a hall by the First Methodist Church after a local insurance firm withdrew its auditorium.





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★ ★ A ★ ★ Happy New Year

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then the van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in the people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

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torial, visited The Worker office last Tuesday a few hours after their "protective custody" expired.

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party, the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

(Continued on Page 4)



Joseph North and John Gates.



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workingmen.

Fearfully awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday, next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

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Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly locked in a struggle over basically the same issues.

At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-won wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly about a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

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Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Hederman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation.

Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

(Continued on Page 13)

New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week...\$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.)...\$41,675.48
Still to go...\$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to:
P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station,
New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if
in New York, bring them to 35
E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.



ILLINOIS
DASABLE
EDITION

The Worker

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Editor: CARL HIRSCH.

Plan Forum On 'India and Soviet Union'

CHICAGO.—"India and the Soviet Union," a subject much in the news as a result of the recent travels of Soviet leaders Bulganin and Khrushchev, will be the first of a series of meetings sponsored by the Chicago Council of American Soviet Friendship under general title, "Understanding the Soviet Union."

Featuring Indian documentary films of Prime Minister Nehru's trip through the Soviet Union, the meeting will be held at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 4, at the Midland Hotel, 172 W. Adams. Also on the same program is a talk by an Indian student on his country's relations with the Soviet Union. Admission is 50 cents. A series ticket, covering events that would regularly cost \$4.85, sells for \$3.50.

Second in the series will be the midwest premiere of Soviet color documentary film of the American farmers' trip to the USSR last summer. It will be held at the Cinema Annex Theatre, 3210 W. Madison St., Jan. 20.

Steel Union Editor Named to School Board

CHICAGO.—The appointment of Raymond W. Pasnick to the Chicago Board of Education was seen here this week as a step toward strengthening that grouping on the board which seeks a constructive answer to the city's school problems.

Pasnick issued a statement saying that he would be "wholly in sympathy with the need for a high standard of living for teachers and other school employees."

An officer of the Chicago Newspaper Guild, Pasnick is employed by the United Steelworkers of America as Midwest editor for the union's paper, "Steel Labor."

HOWEVER, he is not considered by the CIO here, as its official representative on the board. In appointing Pasnick, Mayor Daley further widened the breach between himself and the Cook County CIO Council over the school board issue.

The CIO named Willoughby Abner, UAW leader, as its choice for the nominating committee which was set up to select school board appointees. Daley ignored

this choice and appointed Maurice McEligott, who has lined himself up with an opposing faction led by some steel union leaders.

Among the six names submitted by the committee was that of Pasnick, who was McEligott's choice for the board. The appointment of Pasnick was hailed by CIO leaders here, who said that the steel union editor was well qualified.

"BUT he still is not the choice or the representative of the CIO," said Ellsworth Smith, secretary of the Cook County CIO Council. "As far as the CIO is concerned, we do not have an official representative on the school board."

Both the CIO and the AFL have been traditionally represented on the board until ex-Mayor Kennelly refused to appoint a CIO choice.

When a new opening on the board occurred, the CIO officially named Abner to the civic committee to help select an appointee. The CIO and many other organizations were known to favor Abner as their choice for the board post as well.

Abner has been identified with the majority in Chicago CIO which favors a more independent attitude toward the Democratic machine. As a leader of CIO and of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Abner has been critical of the failure of the Daley administration to act more vigorously against mob violence at Trumbull Park Homes.

THESE were the factors behind Daley's subsequent refusal to accept Abner as the official CIO representative on the school board

nominating committee. The CIO here denounced Daley for his choosing McEligott to this committee. McEligott is an official of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, but the top leadership of this union was known to be opposed to the manner of his selection to the school board nominating committee.

Pasnick, 39, will be assuming his first civic post if his appointment is confirmed by the City Council. Originally from New Kensington, Pa., he came here to work for the steel union. He has been an advisor for a teen-age group in the Cottage Grove Heights community where he lives. He has also been active in the field of labor education. Pasnick is a Polish Catholic, married and has two school-age children.

Hate Groups Renew Threat Of Attack on Negro Homes

CHICAGO.—A racist terror organization which publishes "The White Sentinel" this week encouraged a new outbreak of violence against Negroes in Trumbull Park Homes and elsewhere throughout the city.

The paper, printed in St. Louis, Mo., devoted a full page to anti-Negro rioting. The heading read: "Chicago Whites Fight Invasion With Bare Hands."

The paper is the official organ of the National Citizens Protective

Association which organized open mass meetings here in South Chicago in the fall of 1953 as the 29 months of violence was beginning at Trumbull Park.

JOHN W. Hamilton, editor of "The White Sentinel," was for many years an aide of Gerald L. K. Smith, the rabid hate-monger. His paper sought to inflame racist elements here with the cry that "Chicago will soon be a vast Negro ghetto."

Hamilton published a photo showing how a racist mob had virtually wrecked a building at 45 and Union which had been recently purchased by a Negro family. The racist paper lauded the mobsters and said that they "literally tore the building apart with their hands."

The hate sheet joined Chicago racist realtors in attacking a new pamphlet called "Terror at Trumbull" by Carl Hirsch, Daily Worker writer. Quoted by "The White Sentinel" was a statement from the former head of the Chicago Real Estate Board, Morgan L. Fitch, who claimed that the pamphlet was "the spearhead of the Communist crusade . . . to communize all property as public housing — all under the guise of providing better housing for the Negro, freedom be damned."

HAMILTON'S Klan-like organization has also joined in the demand that Chicago police protection be withdrawn at Trumbull Park Homes.

This same demand was echoed

this week by the Southtown Economist, the community newspaper which has been carrying on a campaign for the sale of public housing projects to private realtors.

The anti-Negro paper was careful not to criticize Police Commissioner Timothy O'Connor. The commissioner is known to be one of those who has thus far prevented a vigorous law-enforcement policy which could put an end to the long - continuing Trumbull violence.

LABOR and other groups here have been criticizing Commissioner O'Connor as one of the three holdovers from the Kennelly administration who remain in charge of the main aspects of the city's race relations policy. The other two are Housing Coordinator James Downs and Augustine Bowe, chairman of the Commission on Human Relations.

THE newly - elected president of the Chicago branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Willoughby Abner, this week charged that Commissioner O'Connor had reneged on a pledge to open the streets of the Trumbull Park community to Negro tenants.

The police commissioner, Abner declared, has not yet set up the necessary means for assuring that the Negro families can walk the city streets with safety. He declared that the NAACP will take legal action against O'Connor and other city officials if they fail to set up the proper safeguards for the Trumbull residents.

Meat Unions Need Unity

(Continued from Page 16)

movement as a whole." On February 17, 1953, the progressive-led Local 25 had addressed a letter in behalf of the 3,500 Wilson workers in the Chicago plant in the international leaders of the Amalgamated calling for unity. This was following an unsuccessful attempt to raid this plant by the Amalgamated.

Patrick E. Gorman, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated, replied to the workers in Wilson, stating that "there is nothing that should keep our two organizations from amalgamating."

The exchange of letters was published and distributed in the yards. The attractive brochure posted the historic question, "Can CIO AND AFL UNITE AGAINST LABOR ENEMIES?" in big bold one-inch type on the front page. Three long years and many battles later the answer looks like it is forthcoming with a resounding "Yes!"

DURING this 2½-year period, both unions have engaged in long and bitter strikes. The CIO Packinghouse union has just concluded two of the longest strikes in its history. In Boston, a settlement was won in the 14-month old Colonial Provision strike. In Louisiana, a settlement was gained in the strife-ridden eight-month strike of the Godchaux Sugar workers.

In neither case can it be said that the union won in the absolute sense. However, the companies failed in their objective to smash the union in each of these two strikes. This is the kind of struggle that has become more typical of the labor movement these days.

At the same time, the Amalgamated finds itself embattled on strike fronts throughout the country as well. At Fond du Lac,

Wisconsin, 390 tannery workers from the fur and leather division of the Amalgamated are on strike since August against the Rueping Leather Company tannery. This is the first strike in the 100-year history of this company. At Center, Texas, the strike of the workers at the Denison Poultry Co., is now in its 19th month. And in the same state at San Antonio, Roegeling packing workers have been on the picket lines for the last 11 months. The Amalgamated is engaged in a number of other strikes in Pennsylvania, Arizona, Oregon and Oklahoma.

WHILE both unions find themselves quite active on the strike front they are both proceeding with attempts to organize the unorganized. The CIO packing union is engaged in a major effort to organize the several thousand Curtiss candy workers in Chicago and is also in a number of campaigns in the South. The AFL Amalgamated is moving ahead in its organizing efforts in the tannery field and among the poultry workers. A number of plants have been organized by both unions in the recent months.

The economic need for the unity of these two has never been more clearly indicated than in the past couple of years. The long strikes, the coordination of the employer efforts to take on the unions—these have left their impact upon both of the unions.

The big packers are organized in the American Meat Institute. They have joined their efforts to minimize the effectiveness of the organization of the workers in their respective unions. Now it appears that this coordinated anti-union effort will be met by the unity of the workers in one union in the near future.

THE workers in the meat industry, like the workers in other industries, are faced with new challenges. For examples, the Chicago Wilson local, which helped spark the unity moves in the packing industry and had

over 3,000 members, now is down to a few hundred as a result of the virtual closing down of the Chicago plant. The callous shutdown by the Wilson company is being done in the name of "efficiency."

More than 350 Wilson workers with 25 years seniority are out on the streets. More than half of the workers have over seven years seniority. The "consolidation" of the plants by the packers places new challenges before all packinghouse workers. This is especially true of the Negro packinghouse workers.

It is estimated that 40 percent of all packinghouse workers are Negroes. The industry move to "get closer to the source of meat" will especially hit the Negro workers as major packing centers like Chicago are affected by these shutdowns.

In the past two months there has been a lay-off of 200 workers from the mechanical gang in the Chicago Armour plant. This layoff affects mainly white workers. There are slim prospects for these workers to be recalled.

IT is reported that the drive toward "automation" has caught up with the packinghouse workers in full force. For example, as a result of speedup on the conveyors, tracts, etc., the work previously done by 339 workers is now being done by 83 workers. Prior to the introduction of special wrapping machines, one piece of beef was wrapped in 13 minutes, now it takes 1½ true of other operations.

The recent history of strikes, plant shutdowns, the fight for organizing the unorganized all spell out sufficient reasons for the impetus given to the unification of these two unions.

On the horizon is the 1956 wage negotiations which take place this summer. To achieve unification of the two unions prior to that time seems to be a logical goal, so that the packers, united in the American Meat Institute, can be faced with a united union of the meat industry workers.

What's On?

GREET the New Year! Party and dance Sat. Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m. at the Chopin Club, 1547 N. Dearborn.

Celebrate 32 Years of The Worker

SAT. — JAN. 14 — 8:30 P.M.

MILDA HALL
3140 South Halsted

- Dancing
- Hootenanny
- New Skits
- Geo. Morris
- Hi-Fi Music
- Door Prize

Ausp: Freedom the Press Committee. • Adm. \$1 plus tax.

Jan. 14 Is Worker's 32d Birthday Party!

CHICAGO.—Thirty-two years and still going strong! That is the history of the Daily Worker—and Chicagoans will celebrate the paper's birthday on Saturday night, Jan. 14.

This will be a memorable night, marked by some very wonderful entertainment. The place will be Milda Hall, 3140 S. Halsted St.

For the occasion, George Morris, labor editor of the Daily Worker, is flying to Chicago to speak. Morris recently climaxed his long and brilliant career with the paper by covering the AFL-CIO merger convention in New York City.

A group of talented West Siders were busy this week writing some song skits which will be presented for the first time. They deal with the history of the paper through its 32 years of leading the struggles of the American people.

To accent the joyfulness of the occasion, there will be mass singing in hootenanny fashion—old songs and new ones.

The beginning and end of the evening will be taken up with dancing. Some hi-fi equipment will be featured by a Chicago collector of outstanding records who will also act as disc jockey.

A door prize will also be awarded. And those who bring Worker subs to the affair will have a surprise awaiting them.

Chicago readers of the Daily Worker are proud of the fact

that it was in this city that the paper was born in 1924. They will turn out on Jan. 14 to sing "Happy Birthday" and to wish the paper a long and fighting future in behalf of the American people.



Meat Union Merger Has Practical Basis In Need for Unity Against Employers

By SAM KUSHNER

CHICAGO.

The main driving force bringing the meat industry workers together into one union has been the need for solving more of the problems of the half-million workers in this industry.

Bitter and long drawn strikes of both the CIO United Packinghouse Workers and the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters during the last few years illustrate the stubborn economic struggles, especially in the era of the Cadillac Cabinet.

In addition, these two unions, like many others, faced that set of difficult problems which few unions have yet had the courage to tackle in a basic way in the recent period. These include: automation, runaway shops, speedup, organizing the unorganized, and especially in the South.

IN A PUBLIC statement is-

This the second a series of four articles on the problems of the meat industry workers, the background of their struggles, the situation today, the prospects for the future—especially in the light of the impending union merger in the industry.

sued upon the occasion of the signing of an 11 point pact between the two unions on July 2, 1953, it was declared:

"Both organizations recognize that the real solution to the problems of the American worker rests in the eventual unity of all labor organizations in one federation. It is our hope and desire that such objectives can be realized, and to that end we will continue our efforts to achieve organic unity of all workers within the jurisdiction of our two organizations and the labor

(Continued on Page 15)



Bitter strike struggles have forged unity

State Labor Merger Talks to Begin Here

CHICAGO.—A Jan. 3 meeting in Chicago between state AFL and CIO leaders is expected to set into motion the merger follow-ups which will unite state and local bodies, as well as the political action apparatus of AFL and CIO.

A committee of top officials from the Illinois State Federation of Labor, representing a million members, will meet with a similar committee from the Illinois CIO Industrial Union Council, which speaks for 300,000 CIO members.

In a meeting here last week of the Cook County AFL Labor's League for Political Education, there was mention of the coming merger of LLPE with the county CIO Political Action Committee.

LLPE County Chairman Thomas Murray and Secretary Earl Quinn called on congressional district LLPE leaders to begin tightening up their district organizations. They were encouraged to contact CIO-PAC and to begin joint work even before the formal merger is carried out.

The Cook County LLPE will hold its first meeting of 1956 on Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 17, 2 p.m. at 10 N. Wells St. The executive board is expected to report on proposals for a large citywide rally of AFL and CIO.

MEANWHILE, it was disclosed that George K. Reese, AFL-CIO director of state and local central bodies, and Eugene Moats, AFL-CIO regional director, would be asked to help work out the merger plans. Joint

committees have already been set up here at both the state and local levels.

Meeting here next Tuesday on the state merger will be ISFL officials Reuben G. Soderstrom, president, Stanley L. Johnson, secretary-treasurer, Earl J. McMahon, first vice-president, and state CIO officials Joseph Germano, president, Pat Greathouse vice-president, Maurice McElligott, secretary-treasurer. The meeting is to be held in the offices of AFL attorney Dan Carmell, 318 W. Randolph.

At its convention last October in Rock Island, the ISFL formally approved the merger. Similar approval is expected when the state CIO holds its convention here at the Morrison Hotel on Jan. 13-14-15.

Sub Drive Nearing Biggest Hurdle

CHICAGO.—A growing corps of Chicagoans were busy this week guaranteeing a happier new year in 1956 by their splendid efforts in the current Worker drive.

The drive here faced its greatest hurdle in speeding toward a 30 percent completion of quotas by Jan. 14. Despite the holiday lag, every community in the city was straining to accomplish this aim.

The Illinois Freedom of the Press Committee issued a statement hailing the completion of the first goal in December, declaring that "the next weeks must mark a renewal effort by more hundreds of our readers if we are to hit the Jan. 14

mark of 375 Worker subs and 90 Daily Worker subs."

"Something very new is happening in this drive. The reports coming in from almost every community show that 1956 is really the year when we have the opportunity to rebuild the paper's circulation, if we would only seize that opportunity."

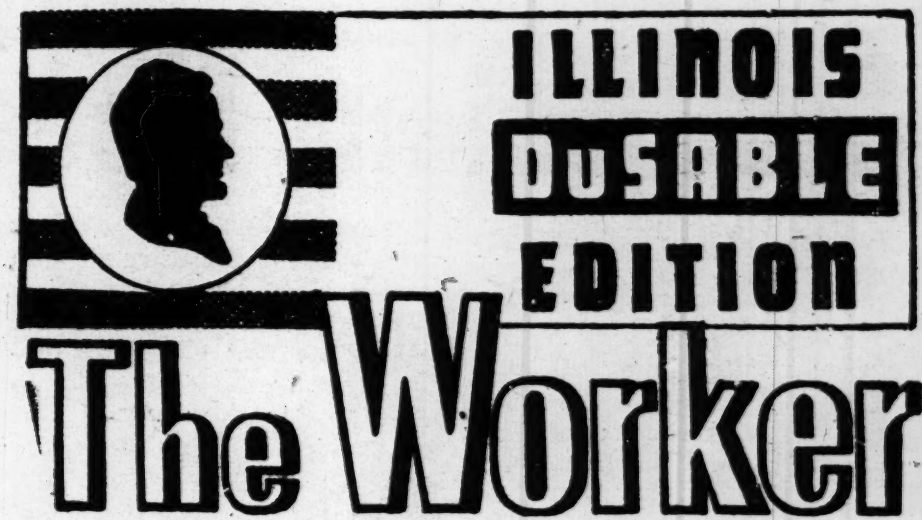
Among of the new features of the drive here this week was the effort of many groups to increase their bundle. One group of skilled workers ordered a new bundle of eight papers.

The South Side added 100 papers to its bundle order for the next few weeks. This is part of a very significant new program to reach the packinghouse

workers and to initiate shop-gate sales at the packing plants. The beginning is being made in connection with the current series of articles on the meat industry labor merger by Sam Kushner.

In addition to getting sub renewals, several communities are breaking important new ground. The influx of subs shows an emphasis in some areas on getting new readers. There is also an attempt being made to turn weekly Worker readers into Daily Worker readers, and several such subs have come in.

The next two important weeks are seen as crucial in the drive!



THE WORKER, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1956

State AFL Acts On Civil Rights

CHICAGO.—In a demand for U.S. government steps to guarantee free elections in Mississippi, the Illinois State Federation of Labor was on record this week for strong federal legislation to prevent a recurrence of the Emmett Till lynching.

The state AFL executive board took action on a resolution on the Till case which was first introduced at the ISFL Rock Island convention in October.

In its emphasis on federal legislation, the million-member Illinois labor body pointed up the coming session of Congress where anti-lynch and other civil rights bills will be up for action.

LABOR and other groups this week were visiting Congressmen from this area to insure support for civil rights bills and for the resolution of Michigan's Rep. Charles Diggs challenging the right of Mississippi Congressmen to hold seats in Congress.

Said the Illinois State Federation of Labor resolution: "It is of the most vital interest to the American Federation of Labor to establish the right to vote in Mississippi and other southern states in order that labor, both Negro and white, can exercise their franchise to defeat the so-

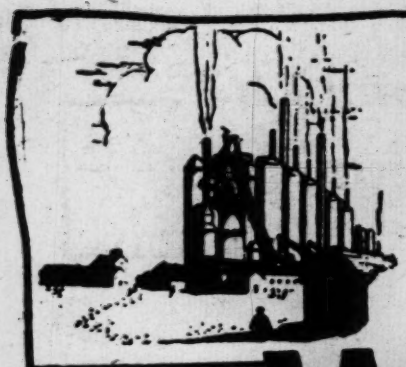
called right to work laws and similar anti-labor legislation sponsored by wage-cutting southern employers."

The resolution was prepared by delegates from two Chicago locals of the AFL Bakers: Frank Wukitsch, Bakers Local No. 2, Samuel Ray and Charles O. Bell, Bakers Local No. 300.

REFERRED to the ISFL executive board, the resolution was approved by the board at its Nov. 18 meeting and forwarded to the AFL-CIO merger convention where no action on it was taken.

Reminding the nation that the lynching of Emmett Till last August was not an isolated incident, the ISFL said that similar acts of violence have been unleashed against Mississippi Negroes who sought to exercise their right to vote.

"The stench of the slave market remains in the state of Mississippi," declared the ISFL. "We call on the federal government to intervene through appropriate federal agencies, particularly the Department of Justice, to see that the guilty parties are brought to justice, in these cases and to guarantee free and peaceful elections in Mississippi to all citizens."



Michigan
edition

The Worker

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★ ★ A ★ ★
Happy New Year

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then the van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in the people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

(Continued on Page 4)

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party," the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

(Continued on Page 4)



Joseph North and John Gates.



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workingmen.

Fearfully awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder, and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

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Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly

locked in a struggle over basically the same issues. At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-won wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly about a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

(Continued on Page 13)

Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH!

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Hederman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation. Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

(Continued on Page 13)

New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week... \$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.)... \$41,675.48
Still to go... \$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to
P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station,
New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if
in New York, bring them to 35
E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it, when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.

Strike Vote on Speedup, DeSoto

DETROIT.—A 40 percent increase in production standards has been thrown at the DeSoto-Chrysler workers on the West Side here and six UAW-AFL-CIO members have been fired for "holding the line" and refusing to make the speedup.

A strike vote will be taken on Jan. 4-5 among the several thousand members of UAW-AFL-CIO Local 227.

Syl Sumeracki, president of the local said that he expected other workers would be fired by the "Forward Look" Chrysler corporation, because the workers just aren't getting to give the company that kind of production.

It's a clear-cut example of asking workers to work themselves out of jobs and onto the unemployment compensation lines. With the 1956 cars not selling, a production increase of 40 percent demanded of the workers, means simply layoffs come quicker. Besides fighting such a man-killing speedup the workers have their eye on shorter work weeks with no cuts in pay as the answer, not speedup and layoffs.

Worker Works With Broken Arm at GM

To the Editor:

In Dept. 6, at Fleetwood plant recently a foreign-born worker who came here from the Polish Ukraine in 1939, broke his left arm just above the wrist when he was carrying material which is used on the body. He slipped and fell, breaking his arm.

His work operation is a scraper, brusher and he uses sand paper, rag wipers, steel wood and plastic scrapers on both sides of the car body. He also has to clean rubber and pull down the trunk lid with one hand and wipe it off with the other.

He missed one, one day and the foreman, named Berlin bawled him out saying, "you want to go back to Russia?" The worker replied in broken English that he couldn't help it. The company gave him a one-day penalty lay-off.

He worked three weeks with a broken arm and then the company found out, bawled him out for not reporting what happened.

The union, UAW Local 15 is processing a grievance on this brutality. The worker discovered worked with one arm in a cast but the company found him "not keeping up," they keep giving him more work and this caused him to get behind again. He again got another day layoff reprimand.

Finally he called his committeeman and the beef is now in the process of negotiations.

And GM says everyone is just one BIG FAMILY at General Motors.

Have You Got a New Reader

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

"I Speak My Own Piece"

Autobiography of "The Rebel Girl"

Cloth \$2.75

Popular \$1.75

Berenson Bookstore

2419 Grand River

Canadian GM Strikers Seek End of Wage Differences

OSHAWA, Ont.—The strike of 17,000 UAW-General Motors workers here is now three months old. Levelling out wage differentials between workers in various GM plants and between like trades in higher paid sections of the auto industry is one of the beefs.

An example of these rate difference is the labor rate at Chrysler is \$1.66; and \$1.62 at Ford while at GM it is \$1.51. Oshawa strikers want a \$1.60 labor rate.

Wages for workers classified as "boys" (19 years and under) and women were another big issue being fought out by the union in Oshawa. Until all these inequities

are straightened out says the union, negotiations cannot move on to issues, like paid health and welfare or wages, across the board.

The union says that there are certain demands they cannot retreat on, full paid social security, eight paid holidays, which are standard in Canadian contracts, a substantial across the board increase above the 5 cent improvement factor and a clause to guard against speedup.

Disturbing to many of the Canadian unionists is the lack of publicity and support to the rugged strike by the International in Detroit.

State PAC Meet: Lansing, Jan. 27-28

LANSING.—Many hundreds of labor delegates from CIO and AFL unions will gather here January 27-28, Friday and Saturday, to map out program and candidates for the 1956 election campaign in Michigan.

Main speaker will be U.S. Senator Pat McNamara who will outline program and tactics for the 1956 elections here.

The conference will convene

two weeks after the start of the second session of the Michigan Legislature is looked upon as a rally point for legislation, state and nationally.

Topics to be discussed at the Saturday round-tables will be: civil rights, FEPC, workmen's compensation, unemployment compensation, state labor legislation, reapportionment.

News Lockout, Strike Enters 5th Week

DETROIT.—As we go to press a solid front of a number of Detroit's newspaper unions is still fighting all the way for a wage increase (\$6 a week), against speedup, and to block moves by the publishers to weaken newspaper unions at the Times, Free Press and Detroit News.

The lockout and strike at the three newspapers is now in its fifth week and affects over 4,000 newspaper workers from mostly nine unions. A pact of concerted action exists between some of them, pledging they will not return until all the demands of all are met and backpay is paid to the workers.

Meanwhile two unions, the mailers and pressmen "chickened" out on the other newspaper unions, by signing a agreement with the publishers to accept \$3.50 a week raise and accepting a contract to March 1, 1957.

The \$3.50 had been offered to Typos, Stereotypers and other "back shop" unions but they had scornfully refused it, pointing to the enormous profits the publishers had sweated out of the workers.

Also these unions are holding out for a contract to expire, Dec. 1, 1956 so that it strengthens the hand of union negotiators next year when they meet this tough crew of publishers whose "sugar daddies" and subsidizers are so obviously the auto trusts.

MEANWHILE the newspaper

Guild, union of reporters, editorial, business, advertising and maintenance workers which has been locked out by the publishers following the Dec. 1 strike action of the Stereotypers union, has opened its own negotiations with the Free Press and Times.

At the Free Press a 35-hour week is being asked by the Guild with no cut in pay, improved health and security additions and a wage increase. At the Times (Hearst) a wage reopener allows wage talks to open Jan. 1.

The Detroit Reporter, official newspaper of the striking unions and locked out workers is still publishing 100,000 copies a day and has more advertising than it can handle. It has a sizeable bank account and is widely read though it's bending over backward to be "impartial."

One of the root causes of the strike by the Stereotypers, is that the publishers want 10 hours work in a 7½-hour day. They want the print shop workers to turn out color work alongside of their regular day's work and get nothing extra for it. Or they want to take them off regular work and place some of them on color work, leaving the remainder to do the work of all. This the Stereos say is outright speedup and they wouldn't agree to it.

They asked extra men be put on, or overtime be paid. The Stereotypers have won an agreement on their demands, waiting only for the publishers to agree to a \$6 a week wage boost. Their new contract will expire Nov. 30, 1956 instead of Dec. 31, as asked by management. Typos are now negotiating their demands.

Michigan Edition The WORKER

Send news, advertisements, subscriptions for the Michigan edition to Wm. Allan, editor, 2419 W. Grand River, Detroit, 1. Phone: WO 4-9015.

AUTOTOWN ALLEY

HENRY'S PIE. Here in figures is the profit wrung from the bodies of Ford workers since the postwar years of 1947.

YEAR	PROFITS
1947	\$ 62,700,000
1948	96,000,000
1949	177,700,000
1950	260,300,000
1951	126,100,000
1952	116,800,000
1953	165,800,000
1954	227,800,000
1955 for 9 months	312,000,000

This is after taxes were paid.

CANADA. As a Xmas "gift" to his 7,000 Windsor Ford workers, Henry II, the "great humanitarian" gave the workers a 10 day layoff with of course no pay, beating them at the same time out of holiday pay.

"GOODFELLOWS" The Goodfellows who collect Xmas money for kids by selling newspapers (this last time it was a scab paper, they wouldn't use the union put out Detroit Reporter) have been caught discriminating. The children designated for gifts are picked by the city's welfare workers who this year were told to designate the race. Thus charged one welfare worker, Negro children got inferior gifts. Walter (Spike) Briggs of Jimcrow Detroit Tigers, ill-fame was this year's chairman of the Goodfellows Xmas fund.

DELEGATION. A group of Negro women leaders met recently with U. S. Attorney General Brownell and said, "you must tell us, Mr. Attorney General, what we shall tell the women who sent us here what we shall do about the women in Mississippi and other Southern States who want to vote and are afraid for their lives." Brownell had no answer.

PROGRESS. Michigan instead of building low cost public housing for its many thousands of citizens who are living doubled up or in sub-standard housing, is going to build new prisons in the state, one of which will be to hold 300 new young offenders.

VICTORY. A Negro woman was hired for the first time in the personnel department at Packard. Spark plug behind the hiring was Frank Bell, UAW member of the Local FEPC Committee.

CONFERENCE. The National Lobby called by the NAACP and being backed by UAW in Washington has been moved up to the last week in February or the first week in March, its learned.

WHEW. The State Conservation Commission in Lansing has approved transfer of 8,000 acres of good state land in the AuSable State Forest west of Kalkaska valued at approximately, \$250,000 to the Army Air Force for a jet base, for the sum of \$1. The value of the land is estimated at \$250,000.

BUDGET. A record \$264 million dollar budget will be asked this year by the City Hall gang. Not a nickel in that proposed budget is for wage increase for city workers.

RAIDING. A raid by the UAW on the Square D plant where the UE has a contract will kickoff when a NLRB hearing will be held Dec. 29. Involved are UAW, IUE and UE and the Operating Engineers. Paul Silvers is Local 351 will be the local bidding to get the Square D workers.

DETROIT REPORTER. The daily newspaper being put out by the locked out newspaper men and printing unions is now soluble. It has over \$32,000 in the bank. Pays its reporters \$84 a week, has a staff of 100, and is getting more advertising than it can handle.

REPORTER. The newspaper reporter who wrote the story of Ford having assets of nearly \$2½ billion was one of the news-men who has been locked out for several weeks by the publishers. He told this reporter that it was a new experience for him to write about Ford's \$312 million in profit after taxes, \$3 million being cut up by 11 executives. It was new because he hadn't gotten a penny in wages for weeks and was dead broke. The story was for the Detroit Reporter.

HCL. Cost of living has risen in Detroit 0.3 percent from October to December. Increases were 3.5 percent for medical care; 2.0 for transportation, 0.3 for apparel.

OFFICE WORKERS. Since the news is abroad that the AFL-CIO intend to start a huge national organizing campaign of office workers, Detroit wages of office workers have risen as bosses start handing out raises and notes to employees about what a good firm such and such is to work for.

TRICK. The latest trick of the "Red Squad" snoopers and spies from the Mayor's "Loyalty Committee" is to call people on the phone and say they are a newspaper reporter. Watch for this gag, its a fake.

UNITY. On Jan. 10, the 20 man unity committee of the Michigan Labor movement will have its first official meeting. There will be 10 from CIO headed by Gus Scholle and 10 from AFL headed by George Dean. The Teamsters and others will also be there as well as the Wayne County Federation of Labor leaders who are smoking a pipe of peace with the Teamsters. The unity convention will be in June in Grand Rapids.



Quality Food at Reasonable Prices

DETROIT WORKMEN'S COOPERATIVE RESTAURANTS

First Branch: 2934 YEMANS

Second Branch: 9238 JOSEPH CAMPAU

FORD WORTH \$2.5 BILLION

DEARBORN. — "Where's our split of that pie" was what Ford workers were asking last week when they heard the company had made \$312,000,000 in the first nine months of '55 after taxes. And in the last 10 years had made in net income (profits after taxes) \$1,748,600,000.

The makes of the pie, the Ford workers also learned that while Ford turned down a demand of 178,000 workers for severance pay, 11 top executives had at present a total of \$8,067,500 waiting for them to retire on in severance pay, if they left Ford tomorrow.

The 11 brass hats also were splitting up a pie of \$3,332,314 among themselves for their "services" in 1955. This was divided between salaries and their take from dividends.

Among the 11 was the one-time FBI agent, John S. Bugas, now Ford's chief buffer against the union. This one-time cop got \$183,750 in pay for 1955 and \$58,860 in dividends and he has \$475,000 in severance pay waiting for him if he by chance wanted to quit tomorrow.

Vigil Lacey, well known progressive Ford Local No. 600 leader asked newsmen, "Where is the workers' split, they are the people whose work in Ford plants piled up this huge profit and assets and made these dividends and severance pay possible.

"There was no reflection in recent negotiations by Ford of this kind of pie in the company's possession. They cried like always when the tool and die men asked for 30 cents. The people getting laid off will sure do some hard thinking when they hear how much the company's got and what they are paying the brass."

Lacey said that with parts pil-

ing up, a over 700,000 stockpile of unsold new cars in the showrooms all over of all makes, as reported two weeks ago by Automotive News, and some layoffs taking place, that talk of 30-40 was going to get hot again and with good reason.

The same day that Ford filed his worth with the Securities and Exchange Commission, 7,000 Canadian Ford workers were getting told they would be laid off until Jan. 2. It meant a 10 day lay-off with no holiday pay.

Here's how several of the porkchoppers of the Ford Motor Company got their "stockings" filled at the end of 1955 for their "services."

Henry Ford II, wages, \$321,000; and he has \$925,000 in the severance pay coming. Ernest Breech, Chairman Board of Directors, wages, \$321,000; severance pay, \$925,000. Breech also got \$88,290 in dividends on his 27,000 shares of stock in the company. Ford and William C. Ford are \$190,000 and \$97,500 for wages. Bill Ford got \$142,000 for severance pay, and Benson got \$480,000.

The company disclosed that it is a \$2,483,010,550 concern as it prepared to sell stocks, some 10-200,000 shares on Jan. 18. It will be sold at \$60 to \$70 a share.

This stock which is owned by the tax free Ford Foundation will send the assets of the Foundation away over \$3 billion. The Foundation has an income of \$100 million a year coming into it from clippings from coupons of stock. The company assets and the Foundation assets are separate. Looks like a "rough" year for Henry and his ten associates running the company.

Stockpile of New Cars, 709,689 Layoffs Begin in Auto Plants

DETROIT.—Two big problems looked the auto workers in the face as 1956 opened up. A total of new car stocks in dealers hands Dec. 1, of 709,689 and layoffs under way in some plants and short work weeks in others. Chrysler plants particularly look for more layoffs in January.

The huge stockpile of new cars is expected to be higher by next week. The 709,689 pile of new unsold cars is half a million more than Dec. 1, 1954 when 265,153 were in stock unsold.

The 709,689 stockpile will soar during December because that's always a slow time for new car sales. Also as one dealer commented bitterly "we sold the 1956 car in 1955." Meaning that such great pressure was placed on dealers to "clean out" the '55 models that the potential 1956 market has been milked to the bottom of the can.

This plus an all-time high cost of living caused by a war economy instead of a peacetime economy

has drastically cut the buying capacity of millions in the country.

For the last two months the auto workers have been driven at excessive rates of production on the assembly lines to get out the '56 model for the showrooms. Now that everyone is loaded with the '56, they are standing by the thousands in the showrooms, lots, storage places sticking to the dealers hands, who by the way paid COD for them to the factory.

With 706,689 cars unsold the companies to maintain maximum profits start laying off the workers, many of whom got it before Xmas so that the employers could save on holiday pay. Chrysler did this with 1,400 people at their Mack Ave. body plant here. Plymouth did it with several hundred. In Dodge 100 were laid off.

Ford, the "human engineer" laid off 7,000 at the Windsor, Canada plant for a week, saving on holiday pay. At Rouge he laid off at the Axle Bldg back to 1948 seniority and it's going back to 1943 seniority.

Layoffs and short work weeks at the Fisher plant in Cleveland, Ohio, is raising considerable speculation and alarm in union circles, as it is doing in Detroit and California. GM management indicated in Cleveland that layoffs and shorter work weeks would extend into late January. Several years ago January was a month of six and seven day a week work for auto workers, BUT NOT THIS YEAR.

CIVIL RIGHTS CONFAB JAN. 22, BY UAW

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — A state-wide meeting of UAW and other union Fair Practices Committees on a local union level will convene here the weekend of Jan. 22. Representatives of AFL locals, now merged in the national AFL-CIO Federation will also participate in a large way.

The meeting an annual affair confined usually to auto workers groups besides being extended this year to include others will deal also with civil rights as an issue before local union FEPC groups.

The great struggle of the Negro people in the South for the right to vote and for desegregation of schools is rapidly becoming a part of civil rights work in many local unions where Negro and white Southern workers take up the issue. This new development marches alongside of discussions now about the campaign to organize the South, mapped out at the recent merger convention and in which UAW-AFL-CIO president Walter Reuther is making it plain he intends to play a big part.

Aid and assistance to the newly established Michigan Fair Practices Commission, the do-it-committee for the new Michigan FEP law, will also be discussed.

DETROIT POLES GIVE \$200

The Detroit Polish friends of the Daily Worker and Worker came through magnificently on our appeal for Xmas parties for the paper's fund drive.

\$100 was given to the fund drive by the Polish friends of the paper collected at a Xmas party, then the editor of the Polish-American Weekly Glos Ludowy, Thomas X. Dohbrowski and his son, Jimmy raised a special \$100 for both papers.

We hope that this weekend if you go somewhere for New Year's Eve parties, you will raise some money for the paper, ask for New Year's gifts for the paper and help us go over the top in Michigan's drive to get \$2500.

The \$30 club keeps growing. This is a group of stalwarts who pledge to raise \$30 for the papers. So far the score sheet reads:

PR, \$30; AD, \$15; BB \$4; Ed-die, \$20; DL, 18; SW, \$10; SA, \$10; BA, \$35; RN, \$30; R, \$30.

CIRCULATION DRIVE

Michigan vs. Illinois

THE MICHIGAN WORKER Circulation Committee has accepted the challenge of Illinois to competition in the present drive for subscriptions, increased bundles and renewals.

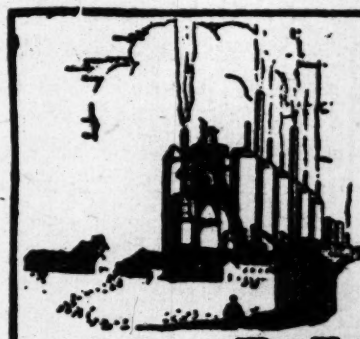
Michigan has a goal of 250 Michigan Worker subs, increase the bundle by 250 and get 100 additional Daily Worker readers.

Illinois has a quota of 1,250 Worker subs and 300 Daily Worker subs to obtain in the drive by March 15. The drive will be based on a percentage obtained. Terms of the competition have to

be worked out between the two states.

Michigan which has gotten off to a slow start in the drive will now have to really pick up tempo, with every area which already has its quota, getting down to serious drive work.

So far we have barely gotten started, with little or no subs in and very little increase in the bundle. So, now's the time to begin. Get yourself a bundle of the Michigan Worker, ask in your area or at the Worker office for renewal cards of expired subs—LET'S GO!



Michigan
edition

The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1956

'Nobody Can Win a War Fought with H-bombs,' Reuther

By NAT GANLEY

According to Washington reports the Eisenhower Administration will propose \$4,400,000,000 in foreign "aid," an increase of \$200,000,000, the great bulk of it going for guns, not butter.

The continuation of this "cold war" approach not only harms peace, but East-West trade as well, so urgently needed by the auto workers. The menace of short work weeks and layoffs again rears its ugly head in many auto plants including the Big Three, GM, Ford and Chrysler. The "cold war" is not only bad for humanity. It hasn't worked in the past. It'll work still less in the future. Wall Street dominates a smaller part of the world today than it did when it first launched the "cold war."

UAW president Walter Reuther must have had something like this in mind when he told the 15th UAW Convention last March: "Well, fundamentally, the cold war reflects a contest of negative values . . . we need to find a way to shift from a contest of negative values between the free world and the Communist world to a contest of

positive values, to a contest as to who can do the most toward advancing the cause of human betterment."

While Reuther hasn't broken with the "cold war" line, and his own type of redbaiting, he does realize that "nobody can win a war fought with atomic H-bombs" and he wants to shift the foreign aid emphasis from guns to butter.

UNDER pressures stemming from the growing peace desires of the auto workers Reuther has gradually come to this position during the past five years. The UAW's peace desires can't as yet be equated with opposition to the foreign policy of the Eisenhower Administration. But these desires have been reflected in the UAW's shift away from its five-year war contract policy and its adoption of the 30-hour work week as the union's next bargaining goal. It was a short two years ago that Reuther considered the 30-hour week a "Kremlin plot" to hogtie "defense" production. It's also seen in other UAW stands. For example, its opposition to McCarr-

thyism and witchhunts in the nation's "internal security" program.

AFTER reading the Washington report on foreign aid I again looked up a plan proposed by Reuther in 1950 for "A Total Peace Offensive." It's a most interesting document, to say the least, coming from Reuther at a time when he was all hot and bothered about supporting the unjust and unpopular war in Korea.

Reuther at the time believed the USA would gain from a peace offensive regardless of whether World War III or peace came out of the Korean struggle. His plan, sandwiched in between many pages of Soviet-baiting, called for the following concrete measures:

1. The USA to donate \$13 billions a year to a UN economic aid fund for the next 100 years. The total 100-year cost would equal the cost to the USA of World War II—\$1 trillion, \$300 billion. The other UN nations would be asked to make donations to the same fund.

2. These billions not to be used for military purposes but solely

for economic aid "that will contribute to improvements of living standards, including nutrition, housing, health and education."

3. When a majority of the UN members accept this plan the UN shall convene an international disarmament conference for the purpose of achieving total disarmament, inspection and collective security policed by the UN. No nation to move militarily outside its borders without UN sanction.

4. The UN to also convene a Peoples World Assembly for Peace, the delegates to be workers, farmers, professionals, youth, etc., rather than government delegates.

5. The UN to create a special agency to build A-Power Peace projects in the undeveloped nations, within the limits of needed security measures. This to come out of the billions in the UN economic aid fund.

6. The aid to be offered to all nations including the Soviet Union, China and East Europe. The UN aid-security bloc would continue operating the plan regardless of what nations rejected it.

HOW WAS THE \$13 BILLION

TO BE RAISED? Reuther said it would come either by restoring war-time tax rates on corporations and upper-income taxpayers or by increasing employment to create the billions needed, with its accompaniment in tax revenue for the government.

WERE any strings to be attached to this foreign aid? Not if you accept Reuther's words to the contrary. "Instead of taking we propose to give," he said.

If you ignore Reuther's illusions in 1950 that capitalism will still be in business during the next 100 years, that the USA will continue dominating the UN and holding the A-bomb monopoly, that independent nations will transfer their security powers solely to the UN, etc., his Total Peace Offensive plan makes most interesting reading today.

Well, if Reuther today can't get \$13 billions for butter rather than guns, without strings attached, he should at least demand that the bulk of the proposed \$4,400,000,000 be shifted in this direction.

This would be good for the world and good for America!



**NEW JERSEY
EDITION**

The Worker

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Happy New Year

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Price 10 Cents

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then the van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in the people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Johnny Gates, visited The Worker office last Tuesday a few hours after their "protective custody" expired.

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party, the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

(Continued on Page 4)



JACK STACHEL



BEN DAVIS



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workmen.

Fearfully awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

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Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly locked in a struggle over basically the same issues.

At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-work wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

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Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH!

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee, showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Herdman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation.

Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

(Continued on Page 13)

New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week...\$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.)...\$41,675.48
Still to go...\$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station, New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if in New York, bring them to 35 E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.

Labor in New York

By Herbert Signer

New York Labor Shifted To the Offensive in 1955

1955—WHAT KIND OF A YEAR? New York unions showed many signs of the changeover from a defensive to an offensive spirit now shaping up in the labor movement.

THERE WERE the organizing drives started by unions in taxi, electrical, department store, bakery, restaurant, hotel, teamsters, furniture, government employees, and others. This comes after some years of stagnation.

New York is largely a union town now, but there is still plenty of organizing left for Father Knickerbocker. Needle trades union were also talking of starting drives among thousands of still non-union workers in the New York area. Organizing is the key to the future of the labor movement.

OUTSTANDING were the giant protest rallies after the lynx murder of young Emmett Till, sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in Harlem, and by District 65, Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union in the garment market. These stand out as live symbols of growing labor-Negro unity in action, and of labor's increased consciousness of its role in the mounting struggles for equal rights.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT all year round were the many struggles of the militant and much harassed rank and file dock workers of the Port of New York to protect their hard-won two-year contract against the shipping employers and Bi-State Waterfront Commission; and, along with this, their fight to improve their union, the International Longshoremen's Association. This tough and complex dockers' struggle stands among the most important and courageous in all of New York labor.

FIVE THOUSAND auto workers at two General Motors plants at Tarrytown, N.Y., in a one-week strike after the signing of the national UAW-GM pact, won major gains on local demands through rank and file militancy. UAW pact and local strikes kicked off major labor upsurge in 1955 negotiations in steel, and other unions. Rank and file pressure, as in Tarrytown, paid off.

MILITANCY of shop stewards and rank and file at the big Republic Aviation plant on Long Island brought about a change in union leadership. Organized into the Machinists Union, workers were dissatisfied with failure of old administration to fight vigorously against layoffs and speedup in the aircraft plants in the last year.

ANOTHER SIGN of the times was the stormy opposition of dressmakers of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union



to the new contract signed by their Joint Board officials which dumped the unions' official wage demands. Some 85,000 workers were ready to strike March 1 in what would have been the first dressmakers' walk-out since 1933. The fighting spirit expressed by the dressmakers at shop chairman and membership meetings and in the shops, were on a scale the likes of which hadn't been seen for years. This indicated new times shaping up in the ILGWU, which has some 175,000 members in New York, and is one of the largest unions.

HIGHLIGHTS of labor's legislative action during the year were: NYC CIO-sponsored conference of 500 shop stewards to push the minimum wage fight; delegation of AFL unionists to Gov. Harriman on state issues; state CIO legislative conference in Albany; mass lobby and victory for the Baker-Metcalf anti-discrimination bill; Retail union's unprecedented lobby of some 650 delegates to Washington (about half from New York) on the minimum wage fight; and the outstanding year-round teachers fight on pay increases, the witchhunt and school crisis. Major lack was united labor action on state and federal issues agreed on by all sections of the labor movement, but there is hope this unity will be achieved in coming legislative struggles in view of AFL-CIO merger nationally, and local negotiations starting now.

WHEN THE Nazi-led Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra was brought to the USA for a tour, the powerful Musicians Union, Local 802, CIO Council, Jewish Labor Committee and other groups, sparked a mass protest which started in New York and spread throughout the nation. The tour, regarded as a State Department political move to build up support in the USA for German rearmament, was a financial flop.

The musicians' action was initiated through a petition of some 1,000 union members. Another sign of this rising democratic spirit in the entertainment world was the election for executive board of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, when a middle-of-the-road slate opposed to blacklisting won a big majority and ousted open supporters of the McCarthyite outfit Aware, Inc.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF 1955: The Transport Workers

Selected TV, Movie Guide

TV
Saturday, Dec. 31

On the Carousel (2) 9 am
Mighty Mouse Playhouse (2) 11
Big Top (2) Noon
Movie Museum (9) Noon
Football: Gator Bowl—Auburn vs. Vanderbilt (2) 2
Blue-Gray Football (4) 2:15
Movie: Three Husbands (9) 5, 7:30 and 10. Light comedy
News (2) 6
Lucy Show (2) 6:30
Big Surprise—Quiz (4) 7:30
Stage Show—The Dorseys and Guests. Count Basie, Others
Perry Como Show (4) 8
The Honeymooners—Gleason & Co. (2) 8:30

Hockey: Rangers-Boston (11) 9
Jimmy Durante Show (4) 9:30
Gunsmoke—western (2) 10
George Gobel Show (4) 10
Damon Runyon Theatre (2) 10:30
Your Hit Parade (4) 10:30
New York's In N. Y. (2) 11:15
New Year's Program (4) 11:15
Spirit of '56 (7) 11:30
Times Sq. Pickup (7) 11:50
Best of '55 (7) Midnight. Variety
Movie: Topper (4) 12:15 (1937 revival)

TV
Sunday, Jan. 1

Charity Bailey Show (4) 10 am
Children's Hour (4) 10:30
Eye on New York (2) 11
Movie Museum (9) 11
Camera Three (2) 11:30. 6th episode of Crime & Punishment
New York Year (2) 2:30
Dr. Spock—noted pediatrician (4) 3
Children's Fantasy—Over the Rainbow (9) 3
Adventure (2) 3:30. Museum of Natural History
Zoo Parade (4) 3:30
Years of Crisis—Edward Murrow and CBS Corr. (2) 4
Wide Wide World (4) 4
Cavalcade of 1955 (11) 4
College Press Conference (7) 4:30
Omnibus (2) 5. Kabuki Dancers, etc.
Super Circus (7) 5
Movie: Three Husbands (9) 5, 7:30 and 10
Meet the Press (4) 6
You Are There (2) 6:30. Benedict Arnold's Treason
Lassie (2) 7
Big Playback—Sports Thrills (11) 7
Jack Benny (2) 7:30

Union campaign on the issues of racism, racketeering and raiding in connection with the AFL-CIO merger. . . . Victories against jinxerow in employment in two unions, a brewery local and bakery drivers, both in the Teamsters. . . . Work stoppages the year-round in departments of the big Schenectady plant of General Electric, organized into IUE, with workers pressing on grievances all the way. . . . The ILA-Teamsters mutual assistance pact, opening up a new stage in longshore struggles. . . . Merger of the Fur union into the Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union. . . . The strike of UE Local 475 in Bloomfield, N.J., featuring CIO and AFL solidarity. . . . Campaign of the Hotel & Restaurant Union for New York solidarity with the Miami Beach strike and organizing drive. . . . CIO conference on juvenile delinquency. . . . state AFL and CIO fight at the state conference on education. . . . Heroism of building construction workers when Coliseum collapsed, resulting in many injuries and one death. . . . Legislative actions of Hotel Trades Council and especially Local 6. . . . Negro-labor protest over failure of the State Commission Against Discrimination to enforce the law vigorously, resulting finally in Harriman's appointment of Charles Abrams as new chairman. . . .

HAPPY NEW YEAR
to all friends of
LOUIS WEINSTOCK

—Rose and Children.

Spectacular—Happy New Year (4) 7:30
Movie: Red Shoes (English) Part Two. Ballet
Ed Sullivan Show (2) 8
Spanish Variety (13) 8
Portrait of a Ballerina (2) 9
Eddie Albert in Rise up and Walk (4) 9
Alfred Hitchcock (2) 9:30
Spanish Show (13) 9:30
Loretta Young Show (4) 10
What's My Line—Quiz (2) 10:30

RADIO
Saturday, Dec. 31

Monitor WRCA Noon to midnight
Metropolitan Opera—Verdi's Aida WABC 2
Football: Gator Bowl—Auburn vs. Vanderbilt WCB 2:05
Football: Blue-Gray-Alabama WOR 2:15
Football: East-West Shrine Game WOR 5
Hockey: Rangers-Boston WINS 8:30
Philadelphia Orchestra WCB 9:05
Oklahoma City Symphony WOR 10

RADIO
Sunday, Jan. 1

Monitor WRCA Noon to midnight
World Affairs Report WCB 12:15
Opera: Strauss' Die Fledermaus Wor 1:30
Symphonette WCB 2
NY Philharmonic—David Oistrakh, violinist WCB 2:30
Years of Crisis—Edward R. Mur-

Synagogue in Bronx Wrecked

Rabbi David S. Savitz found his synagogue at 718 Bryant Ave., the Bronx, wrecked by vandals when he returned to it on Tuesday.

Holy books were torn to shreds, some 100 panes of window glass were broken, pictures had been ripped from the walls, the walls themselves as well as the ceiling, had been torn into, and memorial glass shattered.

Rabbi Savitz said that every time there is a holiday which takes children away from school "something happens." "That kind of venom," Rabbi Savitz said, "I've never seen before. . . . I don't understand. The clergy's failed some place."

Rabbi Davitz said he could understand if children stole things, rather than just destroy. And he could not understand why it was

Sonny Terry on New Year's Eve

The harmonica magic of Sonny Terry will help welcome in the New Year at People's Artists New Year's Eve Hootenanny and Dance at The Pythian Hall this Saturday night. The almost legendary blind Negro harmonica player who has thrilled audiences all over the country will join the midnight songfest direct from the Broadway theatre where he is currently appearing in "Cat On A Tin Roof."

Others in the cast of Hooteneers who will sing "sing out the old and sing in the new" are Betty Sanders, Jerry Silverman, Juanita Cascone and Herman Autrey. Before and after the midnight hoot there will be dancing to Herman Autrey's orchestra.

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row, CBS Corr. WCB 5:05
Meet the Press WRCA 6
Gunsmoke—western WCB 6:30
Edgar Bergen Show WCB 7:05
America's Town Meeting WABC 8
Our Miss Brooks WCB 8:05

MOVIES

Umberto D (Italian) 50th St. Guild
Oklahoma, Rivoli
Conflict (Russian) Stanley. Also Russian Holiday (Sports)
Kismet, Music Hall
Heidi and Peter, Little Carnegie
Diabolique (French) Fine Arts
Tales of Hoffman, 68th St.
New Charlie Chaplin Festival, 72nd St.
Gate of Hell (Japanese) Sat. only Beverly, 59th St. and 3rd Ave.
Le Plaisir (French) 5th Ave. Also Pearls of Crown
Gate of Hell, Symphony, Heights
They Met in Moscow (1946 revival), Club-Cineha—Fri. Sat. Sun 8:30 and 10

DRAMA

Red Roses For Me, by Sean O'Casey, Booth
The Lark, Longacre
Trouble in Mind by Alice Childress, Greenwich Mews
Chekhov's Cherry Orchard, 4th St.
Inherit the Wind with Paul Muni, National
Bus Stop, Music Box
Plain and Fancy, Hellinger
View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller, Coronet
Three Penny Opera, Theatre de Lys
Diary of Anne Frank, Cort
Macbeth, Jan Hus Auditorium, Sunday—last day.
No Time for Sergeants, Alvin
Tiger at the Gates, Helen Hayes Theatre
G. B. Shaw's A Village Wooing, Davenport
Comedy in Music—Victor Borge, Golden
Amato Opera House, 159 Bleecker St. GR 7-2844. Free.
NY City Ballet, City Center

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32nd ANNIVERSARY DAILY WORKER

Speakers:

JOHN GATES EUGENE DENNIS

Editor—Daily Worker Gen'l Secy., CPUSA



The Worker

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1956

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Jersey Needs 223,000 Units To Meet State Housing Crisis

TRENTON. — The Governor's Advisory Committee on Housing, appointed by Governor Meyner last spring to study the state's housing needs, has completed its study and issued a report. About

223,000 dwelling units are immediately needed in New Jersey, the report states. Amendment of the State Constitution giving the legislature authority to enact a program to meet the problem is recommended.

The committee said that over 196,000 dwelling units, classified as sub-standard or dilapidated, need to be replaced entirely. Including the dilapidated housing the present housing supply is still inadequate to prevent overcrowding. The study states that a basic shortage of 54,000 units exists—bringing the overall total of new housing needed to 223,140 units in the state.

The survey estimates that 103,000 low rent public housing units are needed, and it says that Congress should be urged to approve

"an expanded and accelerated federal program to solve this problem." Congress has provided for only 45,000 such units for the entire U. S. for one year.

The shortage of satisfactory housing accommodations for middle income groups is described as the most serious aspect of the problem. Existing public housing programs and private builders are not satisfying this demand.

Enactment of a state program to supplement federal aid to municipalities for slum clearance; draft a New Jersey Housing Code; consolidate all housing functions in one state agency; creation of a special commission by the governor to study minority housing and make recommendations for meeting the problem.

JUDGE ENDS PICKET BAN, HOLDS WEST RESPONSIBLE FOR PICKET LINE DISORDER

FREEHOLD.—Superior Court Judge C. Thomas Schettino, sitting here last week, withdrew his order limiting picketing at the strike-bound Westinghouse plant in Trenton. The justice made his ruling based on his opinion that the company had "deliberately created a

situation" which led to picket line disorders.

The judge cancelled his previous order, limiting picketing to six pickets per gate, after hearing nine hours of testimony, and argument by both company and union lawyers. Effect of the order is to again permit mass picketing by the union, and to clear union men of all blame for picket line disorders.

Schettino indicated that the corporations application was not presented "in good faith and without reservation." He said: "I can't understand why a court should go out of its way to grant relief to one who invites a situation. A foolhardy move should not be given the use of the important process of injunctive relief. The company has deliberately created a situation compelling the court that it should intervene, but has not acted in good faith."

The Superior Court Judge's ruling ripped the phony Santa Claus mask from the face of the giant monopoly, and exposed it as deliberately setting out to create incidents that would make it possible to go to the courts for strike-breaking rulings. Schettino's ruling was in contrast to actions of most New Jersey judges in labor disputes. Anti-picketing injunctions, in the last several years, have been handed out for the asking by Jersey's vested interests. The State AFL is currently demanding the removal of Judge DREWEN for his consistent rulings giving the employers strikebreaking relief by means of anti-labor injunctions.

BAR DREWEN—AFL REMOVE LANE—CIO

The State AFL last week demanded of Chief Justice Arthur T. Vanderbilt that he remove Hudson County Judge John DREWEN from his temporary assignment as a Superior Court judge. The top labor body of the AFL cited DREWEN's anti-labor record in support of their demand.

"In several instances the New Jersey anti-injunction law has been set at naught by the issuance of restraining orders or injunctions without giving the labor unions a chance to be heard," the AFL letter to Vanderbilt said.

DREWEN was accused of violating the anti-injunction law on at least three occasions in recent weeks. The three cases cited were International Projector, 20th Century Taxicab Association and Walter Idde strikes.

DREWEN is the same judge who ruled the Communist Party off the ballot in 1954. He also threw out the case of kick-back charges against the Hague administration but was overruled by a higher court.

The union group recommended that Vanderbilt remove DREWEN "from his position of control over the activities of labor unions in North Jersey" and "replace him with some other judge . . . who will recognize the existence of the anti-injunction law and the rights of labor therein set forth." Despite the plain record DREWEN denied his anti-labor bias, and reactionary employer representatives immediately sprang to his defense.

STRIKE VOTE

About 4,000 workers at the Bendix Aviation Corp. were scheduled to take a strike vote Dec. 29. An unauthorized one day strike took place last week when eight workers were fired. The action forced reinstatement of the men. Basic issue is speedup cutting into bonus pay. According to Fred Smith, president of UAW Local 153,

The State CIO has appealed to Governor Meyner to remove Arthur S. Lane as assistant Mercer County prosecutor. Lane is also counsel for the strike-bound Westinghouse Corporation, and last week represented the company in injunction proceedings in Trenton. Paul Krebs, CIO president said:

"Neither Mr. Lane or nor any other prosecutor of the Mercer County office can impartially prosecute the laws of Mercer County, while the assistant prosecutor is also on the private payroll of the Westinghouse Corporation."

Krebs charged that Lane's actions in behalf of the big monopoly was "a notorious case of dual representation," and in "apparent violation of the policy of your administration." Lane admitted that his firm was representing the Westinghouse Company in injunction proceedings against the CIO.

Krebs said Lane, as company counsel, "presented to the court grossly exaggerated and one sided testimony designed to impress the judge that violence was contemplated or committed." On the basis of Lane's information a temporary injunction was handed down limiting picketing. Judge Schettino later vacated the injunction accusing the company of "bad faith."

Lane, as assistant prosecutor, would be in a position to criminally prosecute strikers of the Westinghouse company, which he gets paid to represent.

Reserve Sunday afternoon March 11, 1956. New Jersey Freedom of the Press Association's big annual mass rally and cultural program. Mark it down in your date book. Every one will be there!

"more units must be produced at the same rate before workers accrue incentive bonuses." He termed it a violation of the contract.

GM-SINGER WORKERS GET SMITH ACT TRIAL LEAFLETS

One thousand GM Linden auto and Singer Elizabeth workers got copies of the Martha Stone Defense Committee's latest leaflet showing labor's stake in the Smith Act trial frameups. The distributions, two of many being made at Jersey shops, is part of the Committee's special one month campaign. The leaflets, given out on

the coldest morning of the season, the temperature was five degrees, got a good reception from the Union County workers. Car windows were quickly rolled down to receive them. At General Motors workers brought out hot coffee for the distributors. At Singer's police tried but failed to disrupt the distribution.

shop talk

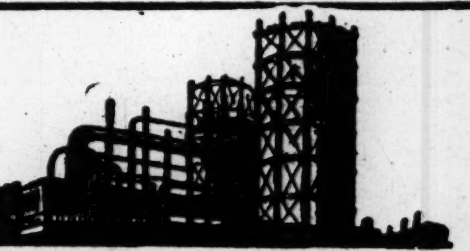
WESTINGHOUSE CRIES

When the State CIO called for a boycott of Westinghouse products cries of anguish came from Westinghouse officials. Officers in Jersey plants all got into the act. "Absurd," "irresponsible," "undermining customer confidence," etc., were a few of the howls that came from the corporation's trained seals. Refusal to buy products from a company whose workers are out on picket lines is SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for millions of Americans. Even reactionary Westinghouse officials should know that.

And speaking of "undermining confidence"—how about the company's refusal to except the proposal to arbitrate made by Governors of three states, Meyner of New Jersey, Leader of Pennsylvania and McKeldin of Maryland. That must "undermine confidence" of a lot of people in the justice of Westinghouse's position.

SALK VACCINE

Labor's demand that more Salk vaccine be given to public clinics and less to private doctors has borne fruit. The state is now allotting



the serum on the basis of 60 percent to the public agencies and 40 percent to the doctors. This is less than demanded by Paul Krebs, CIO president, who urged that clinics get 75 percent of the serum. At present the needs of free clinics far outweigh the supply available. 110 communities are still waiting for their first shot vaccine. They need 250,000 ccs., but will get only 35,000 ccs. of the 58,000 due to arrive on the 8th and 9th federal allocation.

COURT HITS LOYALTY OATH

Trenton. — The N. J. Supreme

Court, in a unanimous decision, has barred the Newark Housing Authority from evicting tenants from public housing for refusing to deny membership in the Attorney General's list of "subversive" organizations.

The decision, which did not rule on the constitutionality of the Gwinn amendment, never-the-less dealt another blow to the witch hunt started in various areas following the passage of the amend-

cured by IPC last month limiting picketing, which the company had expected to use for scab-herding and strikebreaking.

The UE, which has had IPC under contract for 18 years, walked out Aug. 1 when the company insisted on some 70 changes in the new pact designed to undermine grievance procedure, incentive safeguards, seniority rights and other long-standing provisions. IPC refused pointblank to even discuss union demands covering pensions, wages and other benefits.

IPC apparently counted on having an isolated UE to deal with in its union-busting plan, having in mind previous years of rading the UE in Jersey. However, from the start the IPC strikers were given the support of the IUE locally, other CIO and AFL unions, as well as community groups.

The experience of years of disunity gave way to a new-found unity in Bloomfield and the IUE and other unions raised funds for the UE strikers, sent joint delegations to the Mayor and other public officials, spoke at strike meetings and helped rally broad community support.

With the Westinghouse strike taking in the Bloomfield plant UE-IUE solidarity was further strengthened locally.

An AFL union brought in by the company for a strikebreaking raid refused to jump in, and gave public support to the IPC strikers.

Neghborgs living near the IPC plant have supplied coffee and shelter to IPC pickets. When the union ran a Columbus Day affair (most strikers are Italian) the community pitched in and brought food and money. A dance, held on a stormy night, attracted 400 workers and their families.

The complete shutdown of the plant, and the failure by IPC to starve out the workers or isolate their union, finally produced the first serious negotiations running four days last week.

The decision, centering around James Kutcher, a member of the Socialist Workers party, upheld a Superior Court ruling appealed by the Newark Housing Authority. The Civil Liberties Union handled the legal fight. The CIO opposed the eviction of tenants for refusing to sign the oath, and called for "more public housing, not loyalty oaths." Housing Authority officials were studying the decision before announcing their next move.

Dennis Gives His First Interview After 5 Years of Smith Act Gag and Shackles

By ROB F. HALL

HOW DOES the New Year look to Gene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party, on the completion of a 5-year Smith Act sentence, including 10 months of "conditional release" during which he was forbidden to engage in political activity.

This was the first question I put to the tall gray-haired former electrical worker when he and our editor-in-chief,

Gates to Resume Editorialship Tuesday

After four years of prison under the thought-control Smith Act and ten months of "restrictive custody," Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party and John Gates, editor-in-chief of the Daily Worker last week took their places again in the nation's political life. Dennis had previously served an additional year in prison for "contempt" of the House Un-American Committee. "Restrictive custody" ended for the two Monday midnight, Dec. 26.

"Custody" also ended at the same time for two other leaders Jack Stachel of New York and Carl Winter of Detroit. Stachel, however, continues to be harassed under the Walter-McCarran Immigration Act. Former New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, former publisher of the Daily Worker, still has 60 days more of "custodial" restriction as a result of a "contempt" sentence for refusing to inform on fellow-Communists when he was a defense witness in the Pittsburgh Smith Act trial. Legal steps are planned in order to free Davis immediately from the custodial restrictions.

The Worker announced that Gates would resume his job as editor-in-chief next Tuesday. Dennis indicated that a forthcoming meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party would determine exactly when he would officially resume his duties as general secretary, following the enforced leave of absence.

The two men will make their first public appearance in four and a half years at the 32nd anniversary celebration of the Daily Worker at Rockland Palace on Jan. 27.



Eugene Dennis and John Gates scan our Christmas issue at The Worker editorial office.

Assignment: USA

The Return of the Patriots

By JOSEPH NORTH

THE LAST time I saw them, it seemed, they had climbed into that prison van in the bleak courtyard at Foley Square when the sun was setting after the verdict came in, and then they van pulled out. They had waved goodbye. "We'll be gone for a while," Eugene Dennis had said.

It was a quite a while, five years. Now they had dropped

by the office of this newspaper this week to say hello upon their return to the political life of the country.

Time flies by on wings that shame the hawk. Though you had felt an age would pass before you would see them again that day when they were taken away, it felt oddly like yesterday when you saw them in our office today.

The stamp of youth is still on their faces. Gates is lean, his face more lined, more furrowed than when I had seen him in Spain, a young, trim figure in the lieutenant colonel's uniform of the Republican army, the age of 24—and when, half a decade later, I saw him in the uniform of a paratrooper in our Army during the second world war.

AND HERE DENNIS stood, tall, ramrod-straight, prematurely gray, a man with a quiet smile, the same that I remembered long back that speaks of inner strength and an unquenchable confidence in the people and the future that will

be theirs.

WHAT DO YOU say when folk you know who are the most intrepid champions of your people return after years in prison, yes, what do you say?

What was to be said, they said, in their own ways, as the staff and other of their friends pressed forward to take their hands to greet them. Gates, who will, by request of his edi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Johnny Gates, visited The Worker office last Tuesday a few hours after their "protective custody" expired.

"The prospects for 1956" Dennis replied, "I view more favorably than for any recent years. Although it should be obvious that in the sharp and bitter struggles that lie ahead during the next year, there will be some mighty rough sledding and hard knocks."

As for his own role in 1956, Dennis spoke crisply of his intentions, now that the ban on his political activities had ended. "I intend to speak, write and associate freely, to continue to advocate my working class, my Communist beliefs," he said. "I intend to cooperate with all proponents of democracy and peace to help make this, our own, our native land, a nation where all its people can enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a world at peace."

DENNIS did not attempt to conceal how deeply moved he was at the warm reception given him by his comrades and colleagues on this day. We turned our talk to the Communist Party and I asked him whether, since his release from prison last March, he had formed any impression of the role of the party during these months.

"I have," Dennis replied, "although now these opinions will be tempered in the coming months by a first-hand and more rounded-out consideration of the collective experience and views of the party as a whole."

But one thing, he added, was "self evident."

"Our party, the majority of its membership and leadership at all levels, and under the intrepid guidance of Bill Foster, has remained staunch and courageous." Under trying conditions, Dennis said, the party had fought tenaciously for peace, democracy, equal rights and economic security. "It has proven again," he emphasized, "that it constantly champions the democratic traditions and national in-

(Continued on Page 4)



Joseph North and John Gates.



Dennis greeted by staff member Augusta Strong.

Stage Set for Battles as Congress Opens Tuesday

By ERIK BERT

WASHINGTON

MANY—probably most—politicians here have heard with misgivings that the new AFL building is to be rebaptized. The stones bearing the name "American Federation of Labor" are to be replaced with the symbol "AFL-CIO." The easy-sailing boys fear that their hopes of coasting through the second half of the second session of the 84th Congress may be upset by labor's new-found unity.

They are, even now, alerted to the growing aggressiveness that they fear will arise from the unity of 15,000,000 workingmen.

Fearfully awaited also by them is the first speech on Capitol Hill that will echo the great public revulsion at the Till murder and the demand for the Negro people that an end be made in this session to the unbroken record of betrayal on civil rights legislation.

Even the Republicans, who would be most willing to coast, are uneasy. From another front—rural America—Republican Congressmen are demanding that the Administration do something practical to relieve the growing farm crisis—and save Republican votes.

THE news from abroad is not more reassuring. Month by month, week by week, almost day by day the press services and foreign correspondents disclose—usually in frustration—that the Geneva spirit is growing.

The new Soviet budget, with its sharp cut in arms expenditures, is a challenge to the defense proficients that their spokesmen here have not yet figured out how to answer. The Pope's plea to save humanity from an atomic holocaust has set the hate-Russia warriors on edge.

They know only too well that the people back home—not just the Russians and the Pope—agree on arms-budget cutting and on peace, not atom blasts.

Every Congressman and one-third of the Senators are shifting their eyes back and forth from the calendar—where the first Tuesday after the first Monday next November is marked in red—to their constituencies where their fate will be determined on that date.

They slid through the first session of the 84th Congress in the hope that their misdeeds or no



deeds would be forgotten by election day. But it does not seem to them now that that happy solution will be possible in the session opening Tuesday.

They are even now more receptive to pressure on labor's demands, on civil rights legislation, for farm relief, than they were last session.

IT IS ALSO clear, however, that a well-organized counter-pressure movement is being organized to keep them in line. The Cadillac cabinet has nailed its program to the White House masthead: tax cuts for the rich, cool or cold war to prime the pump for armament contracts and profits, and resistance to all of labor's demands.

The Barry Goldwater wing of the GOP is demanding, further, that resistance to labor's demands be supplemented by a major offensive against the trade unions.

Instead of 100 percent of parity, the Eisenhower administration is pressing for a "soil bank" program to take acreage and farmers out of production.

THE LOYAL opposition to the Administration—represented by Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson and House Speaker Sam Rayburn—is equally anxious to keep the lid on the demands of the people. Johnson has announced that the first item on his legislative program is removal of natural gas

(Continued on Page 12)

Corporation Watching Westinghouse Strike

For First Time Automation Is Issue

By GEORGE MORRIS

THE 11-WEEK strike of 55,000 Westinghouse Electric Corporation workers, no nearer a settlement as it enters 1956, is the first nationwide strike against automation. Employers are watching the outcome with interest because any of them may be similarly locked in a struggle over basically the same issues.

At the root of the company's demand for a five-year no-strike wage-limit contract and an unrestricted right to set work standards for day (time) workers, is its plan to go all-out in competition with others by far-reaching automation and other technological innovations.

That is why the company is stubborn. That is why the two unions on strike are holding the line for all labor—for long-established restrictions on speedup and hard-won wage standards.

THE ISSUES involved are far weightier in the long run for the workers than the wage loss—nearly a thousand dollars per worker—or the millions drained from the company's reserve and its temporary loss of market.

An investigation would probably disclose that Westinghouse is getting financial help from very powerful industrial forces—possibly even its competitors—because so much is at stake for all the big employers.

This is not the first strike induced by drastic introduction of new technological equipment and the new wage standards and speedup

that comes with it. The recent chain of Studebaker strikes and others had a similar source. But the Westinghouse walkout, affecting 40 plants across the country is the first of a nationwide nature and of a billion dollar company.

THE company, second in the industry, but feeling itself hard-pressed by Giant No. 1—General Electric—has decided that the only way it can keep up with the level of productivity and profits set in the industry is to take heed of the advice of the head of Chrysler, a company that was similarly falling behind in 1953-54. Chrysler's head said the rule of the system is "automate or die."

To clear the way, for full use of technological changes, Westinghouse set out to change its wage system. In the big Pittsburgh plant Westinghouse moved to retine day work performance, to set new and higher work standards for its workers. In the big Lester, Pa., steam turbine plant, the company moved to eliminate incentive wages and put all workers on the much lower day-work standards, with the company's right, of course, to periodically retine those day rates so as

to further squeeze the workers.

While eliminating any possible ceiling on productivity, the company wants a floor on wages and a freeze of that condition under a five-year no-strike contract. Westinghouse is willing to allow an annual three percent in wages and freeze it at that level, as the price for a no-holds barred production drive. The company counts on achieving far greater results with fewer workers—more production with a lower wage cost.

THE Wall Street Journal (Dec. 27), said the company credits machinery with increases of productivity, but claims it is not getting such increase from its workers. The company, therefore, wants a free right to squeeze more sweat out of the workers. Here's how the WSJ puts it:

"The strike issues are strongly tied to Westinghouse's desire for a firm foothold in its industry by reducing and stabilizing its labor cost, which, though rising over the last five years, have kept at a fairly steady percentage of about 36.7 percent to 38.7 percent, of total costs. The greatest output per man

(Continued on Page 13)

Your Money and Your Life Who Owns Mississippi?

By Labor Research Association

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH!

Hats off to their heroic battles against lynch-law murders and segregation, for equal political rights and decent living standards. Let the whole country know that those responsible for southern oppression of Negroes are not only planters and Dixiecrat politicians. Behind them, supporting them, actually running the South are giant Wall Street combines which gouge the people everywhere.

Facts about this were brought out in the Senate investigation of the ill-famed Dixon-Yates contract. A former official of Mississippi Power and Light testified that the power company is run by the New York utility combine, Electric Bond and Share of 2 Rector Street, whose men "do everything but lick the stamps" behind a false front of local officials without real authority. He called Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana the "Tri-State Colonial Empire" of the Dixon-Yates holding company, Middle South Utilities, which is part of the Electric Bond and Share empire.

The witness and the Senate Committee showed how Mississippi Power and Light supported those responsible for Mississippi politics. It paid regular monthly retainers to 20 law firms, including six in areas where "the witness saw the only purpose as political influence in the area." Leon F. Hendrick, one paid-off attorney, is a former State Representative and leader in the state Bar Association. Another, H. P. Farish, is city attorney of Greenville. A third is William J. Vallor of Vicksburg, former member of the State Legislature and Assistant U. S. District Attorney.

MOST politicians are lawyers. By retaining the important lawyers, the Wall Street companies influence their policies, and at least condone their refusal to prosecute murderers of Negroes, their defiance of the Supreme Court order for school integration.

Mississippi Power and Light pays out money five ways to the Hederman interests, which control the racist newspapers and the radio and television stations of Jackson, the state capital. The Senate Committee considered this of "particular importance in this power company program of maintaining its influence over the political climate and the state government." The power company also contributed to the lily-white social, educational, and professional organizations of Mississippi.

The sum of the varied political outlays by this power company was over one-third of its actual operating expenses.

WHAT is the return on this political "investment"? Look at the telephone trust, the largest of them all. AT&T, through its southern subsidiary, Southern Bell, pays even larger fees than the power companies to the main law firms, newspapers, and social organizations throughout the South. The connection between the jimcrow system and the southern wage differential is well-known. In 1954 AT&T paid its telephone operators in New York an average of \$1.64 per hour; in the South \$1.27, or 23 percent less. It paid building service employees \$1.51 per hour in New York; in the South, where they are largely Negro, \$1.06 per hour, or 30 percent less.

All of the employees of Southern Bell Telephone Co. worked 2,312,000 hours per week for \$1,017,000 less than the New York wage scale. So the Telephone Company got extra profits of a million a week, or \$52 mil-

lion per year, from the Southern differential. A return of a thousand percent or more on its political investment.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND AFRICA!

All men of good will support their struggle to end the colonial system. May they have real aid to help overcome the economic backwardness imposed by centuries of "Western" exploitation.

Let's take a look at the hasty and belated Washington proposals for aid to Egypt in constructing the Aswan Dam. Is it disinterested aid? Hardly. The offer came after years of stalling on Egypt's request. It is openly designed to counter and block the recent Soviet offer to help finance the dam.

Is it without interference in Egypt's internal affairs? The International Bank (Wall Street controlled) will not sign a loan agreement until Egypt agrees to "take adequate measures to concentrate her internal resources on dam construction and avoid inflation" (N. Y. Times, Dec. 8). In

(Continued on Page 13)

New Year, But Old Problems

AND SO the earth has completed another of its endless cycles around the sun, and a new year is upon us. But where the earth's track hardly changes at all from one rotation to the next, with us each new year is different. The course of social progress last year was upward, and the coming year promises to be fruitful, as well as exciting.

We feel we have our part to perform, and we are ready to do battle for the things so dear to

Received last week... \$ 2,254.02
Total to date (Wed.)... \$41,675.48
Still to go... \$22,324.52
Rush your contributions to
P.O. Box 136, Cooper Station,
New York City 3, N.Y.; or, if
in New York, bring them to 35
E. 12th St., 8th floor.

all of us; for peace; for full freedom and equality of all our people, and a peacetime economy that will increase living standards of the worker, small farmer and small businessman.

But we also have a little world of our own. It is not separated from the big one, but it has its own trials, its worries, its triumphs and its expressions of devotion. We're talking about the little world of Worker finances. On the eve of the New Year, this little world is not doing so well.

There are huge obligations, bills, debts to meet as the year winds up. Our \$64,000 fund appeal was worked out to meet these obligations. But as you see, at this writing, Wednesday, it looks as if there will still be \$20,000 to go come the holiday weekend.

We must meet these obligations, even if we cannot do it when they fall due—or past due. And so we must continue to plug until the entire \$64,000 are in. But we cannot go beyond the first few weeks of the year, and so we leave it up to you, our readers, to come through as you have so often in the past.

If you have not yet done so, get onto that Committee of One Thousand, pledged to raise \$30 or more to put the campaign over. Only about 600 more members will guarantee the job will be done. We know there are many more of you—that are anxious to see the goal reached. Don't leave it to the other fellow.

If you have not yet contributed get into the swing and send us your contribution now! Let's start the New Year with things looking up in our own little world, as in the big one.

Keystone Labor

More Payless Pay Day Threats Attend Westinghouse "Loans"

With the holiday mistletoe and dreydl still oozing good cheer, it's not nice to say—but there's strong evidence that there was an ugly crooked smile behind the gay whiskers that the Westinghouse Corp. Santa wore when he gave out those \$100 Xmas loans to his striking employees.

How can one believe otherwise, when at the same moment the "present" was being handed out, company ads were appearing in the newspapers which amounted to saying that unless the workers agreed to take a wage cut, they would face more and more payless paydays?

Also, the company is holding up vacation pay to which some strikers are now entitled. The money belongs to workers who delayed their vacation last summer with the intention of taking the time off during hunting season.

In fact, Westinghouse management is getting a reputation that stinks, and many people feel the company came out with its ballyhoo on the \$100 loan only to dam up the stream of aid from so many men and women of good will who want the union to win this strike.

Particularly from Chester, support to UE continues to flow. Here are contributions announced this past week: AFL-CIO Oil and Atomic Workers, Local 234, covering production and maintenance at the Sinclair Oil Refinery, gate collection of \$561.02; 400 AFL-CIO construction workers at same plant, \$336.12; Local 1287, United Steelworkers, Baldwin Southwark plant, plant collection of \$282; United Mine Workers, District 50, Local 13028, \$100 from treasury; AFL-CIO Sun Ship workers Local 802, Boilermakers, gate collection of \$869.31.

Philadelphia seems slow in getting started. A few unions have done very well, including General Electric, Local 19 IUE; Budd Co., Local 813, UAW; Yale & Towne, Lodge 1717 IAM, all of which made good-sized gate collections. Also, canned goods and children at the Third Annual Chanukah-Xmas Party organized by the Friends and Families of the Smith Act Defendants.

But, all in all, the City of Brotherly Love is far behind its little neighbor in Delaware County.

For Philadelphians who want to help but may be short of ideas for going about it, here are two samples of what Chester is doing:

1—A house-to-house canvass was made of the 250-unit Glendale Cooperative Housing Project. In the words of the UE Strike Bulletin which reported the event: "It paid off because people basically are cooperative, understanding and helpful, especially when they're workers."

2—An appeal for help, sponsored by a committee composed of such prominent people as Mayor-elect Joseph L. Eyre; Media chief of police Malcolm Laughead and assistant Temple University law dean Elden Magaw, was mailed to 3,000 business, civic and professional leaders in Delaware County. The appeal of the Lester strikers stated: "Through no fault of their own they have been caught in one of the worst economic disasters to hit Delaware County in a long, long time."

We know of at least two New Year parties where in addition to the usual items that people bring to such affairs they are bringing cans of food to be deposited in a bin marked: "Put your bit here for Westinghouse strikers. It's not just THEIR fight."

That's an idea, too.

C. P. POSITION

(Continued from Page 16)

"If the cause of peace, economic welfare, equal rights and democracy is to be advanced in the course of the 1956 elections, it becomes necessary, in the first place, to help build precisely these broad, mass movements around the central issues, thereby influencing the course of the elections itself, as well as exerting the necessary popular pressure on the incoming administration and Congress."

Further elaborating on the "special contributions" to be made by the Communist Party and its entire membership in helping to build the mass movements of the people, as well as strengthening the ability of the left to make its maximum contribution, Robert Klonsky, editor and circulation manager of the Pennsylvania Edition of The Worker presented plans for the 1956 circulation campaign of the paper.

He reported that the Pennsylvania Edition had registered a 25 percent increase in circulation in 1955—the first such increase in more than five years. "We intend in this campaign to establish a firm basis for another 25 percent increase in 1956, as an essential ingredient for advancing the struggle of labor and the people for peace, economic progress and democratic rights."

The campaign starting Jan. 1 and continuing through April 1 has as its goals the securing of 600 subscriptions and renewals for the Penna. Edition of The Worker, 150 for the Daily Worker and a weekly bundle order of 500, Klonsky announced.

The paper's efforts for increased circulation, already under way in a number of areas, received the

unanimous endorsement of the Party's District Committee, which urged all Party clubs to enter the campaign immediately and help guarantee its most rapid fulfillment.

PENNSYLVANIA is destined to play a key role in this year's political and electoral battles, Roberts indicated. Both in his report and in subsequent discussion, the following factors were cited among others, as evidence of the special importance of the Keystone state in 1956:

- Intervention of a major character in the recent Philadelphia elections by top GOP leaders, including Eisenhower himself, on behalf of the defeated Longstreth;
- Appointment of Philadelphia Democratic Party leader Finnegan as Stevenson's campaign manager;
- The increased number of delegates from Pennsylvania to the Democratic national convention, resulting from the increased voting strength and influence of the Democrats in this state;
- The growing fight shaping up for the Senatorial seat now held by GOP kingpin, Sen. Duff;
- The mounting struggle against Congressman Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania's 20th District, chairman of the House Committee on un-American Activities and co-author of the universally condemned Walter-McCarran Act.

A whole host of questions discussed and debated at length by Committee members established the basis for the most widespread discussion around the 1956 developments and perspectives throughout E. Pennsylvania and Delaware in the coming weeks. The discussion centered, in part, around the

following points:

- The increasing political role to be played by Labor in the 1956 elections, as demonstrated by the merger convention itself, as well as by the mounting attacks on labor's political activity by monopoly spokesmen in Congress;
- The important struggles shaping up in the coming session of Congress as a result of the Till murder and the continuing terror against the Negro people in the South. In line with this question a number of Committee members emphasized the significance of the plans of labor and Negro people's organizations for a civil rights mobilization in Washington in early February;
- With the bitter, three-month-long Westinghouse strike cited as an example, attention was directed to the new and sharpening character of the economic struggles facing labor;
- Widespread indications pointing to the greater possibilities of and increased need for the left and progressive forces playing a more extensive role in helping to determine the program and character of the campaign of those candidates supported by labor and its allies;
- The victories scored against McCarthyism in 1955 established the pre-conditions for expanding the involvement, active participation and influencing role of the millions who constitute the mass base of the major parties. Con-



DR. BLUMBERG

Blumberg Comm. Asks \$10,000 Defense Fund

PHILADELPHIA.—An appeal for the raising of \$10,000 for the defense of Dr. Albert E. Blumberg, National Legislative Representative of the American Communist Party, who will go on trial here under the membership provision of the Smith Act January 30, has been issued by the Philadelphia committee headed by Miss Elizabeth Frazier, with Mary Foley Grossman as its secretary.

A folder headed: "The Crime of Dr. Albert Blumberg—Thinking Forbidden Thoughts," has been mailed, with the appeal, to a large number of prominent people in this and other areas. The folder gives the story of Blumberg's life, his accomplishments in the field of education, and his parallel activities in the AFL Teachers Union, the organization of consumers, and the anti-segregation fight.

The folder points out that the indictments and convictions under the Smith Act "took place during the height of the 'cold war,' with all its tensions, suspicions and fears. The times that produced them," it emphasizes, "are passing with the relaxation of tensions"—as President Eisenhower called it—which resulted from the Geneva Conference and the new era of commonsense and peaceful negotiation rather than belligerence in settling international differences.

"This membership case CAN BE WON," the Committee stresses, "through a strong defense, participated in by growing numbers of aroused, patriotic Americans."

Contribution to Dr. Blumberg's defense should be sent to: Miss Elizabeth P. Frazier, chairman, Committee to Defend Albert Blumberg, 8024 Roanoke St., Philadelphia 18, Pa. Copies of the folder may be obtained on request.

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sequently the Communist Party is called upon and intends to play a greater and more effective role in its day-to-day activities around the major issues of concern to these millions.

A number of speakers repeatedly stressed the urgent need for all Communist Party clubs and individual members to expand the use of all forms of public expression and explanation of the Party's policies and program. They urged more widespread use of its literature, press, the organization of public forums and debates.

In concluding its sessions the District Committee adopted a program of activity which included full support to the movements aiding the fighting Negro people in the South, as well as maximum support to the striking Westinghouse workers.

In addition, it ridiculed as "sheer poppycock" and as "a lying piece of FBI propaganda," a recent Philadelphia Inquirer "story" out of Washington, D. C. The "story" featured on the front page, "reported" that the Communist Party in Philadelphia was "coming up from the underground" and that this was being done "on orders from Moscow."

North Star On South Street

By R. H. B.

CAMPAIGN TO AID THE FIGHTING SOUTH GROWS AND WILL CONTINUE . . .

AT THE SECOND meeting in the last 30 days held in a Philadelphia Baptist Church, to aid the Negroes fighting to expand democracy in the South, Rev. H. J. Trapp stated that the campaign in Philadelphia will continue. Rev. Trapp is pastor of the Thankful Baptist Church, at which this meeting was held, and is also chairman of the Philadelphia Committee Against Juvenile Delinquencies and Their Causes, which has recently entered the campaign of aid to the South.

The spirited meeting at Rev. Trapp's Church raised a little over \$100 and a considerable amount of canned goods as part of the second shipment to the South.

HOBSON REYNOLDS, Grand Director of the Civil Liberties Department of the Negro Elks, who just returned from a 10-day tour of Mississippi in a statement to the press said that the Negro in Mississippi has not been cowed by the recent wave of terror but is "inspired" and fights back with greater determination than ever.

Reynolds noted that the Elks will complete plans for their program of aid to the Negroes in the South right after the first of the year.

The campaign to aid the South launched by the Penna. Worker last week is gaining momentum and all readers and friends are urged to bend every effort to make a "mountain" of canned goods on Jan. 5, 8:30 p.m. at 2014 N. 32 St.

Start the New Year right. . .

A DELAWARE READER WRITES NORTH STAR ON ROLE OF LABOR IN FIGHT FOR FEPC

A LETTER from a reader from down Delaware way that ran the gauntlet of the Christmas mails and arrived just as we were about to depart for the post office sheds a little more light on the fight to make FEPC the law of the Nutmeg State.

Last week this department carried the news of the passage of an FEPC bill through the House of Representatives in Delaware after being brought to a vote five times in this session of the legislature.

My precious reader writes that on the eve of the vote that passed the FEPC in the lower house of the state government, the political action committee of Local 1694, International Longshoremen's Association issued a statement that said in part:

"FEPC legislation was promised in the campaign platforms of both political parties during the last campaign. Some of the legislators are in danger of being charged with the breach of faith because Mr. Livingston's bill has been called up several times and rejected. But there is still time for promises to be kept by passing the bill."

"There can be no security for any worker when one group has unequal opportunity for employment. Also, a lower standard of living forced on one group tends to hold down the progress of all groups. No one but a few selfish individuals gain from low wages."

The writing reader from Delaware notes that local observers felt that the longshoremen's statement "contributed substantially to the passage of the bill" in the House of Representatives.

The letter also carried the following background information.

"The Negro peoples movement, labor, and white liberals celebrated the passage of an FEPC bill in the State House of Representatives, culmination of a 10 year struggle in the 'First State' for the passage of this legislation. All efforts of backers of the bill will now be directed to the State Senate committee on Public Health where the reactionary racist forces of the senate referred it. It is expected that the Dixiecrat-Republican coalition from Kent and Sussex counties, the two southern counties of the state, which has 10 of 17 seats in this body, with less than 1/3 of the state population, will do all in its power to prevent the bill from coming to the senate floor for a vote. They will be aided in their efforts by such pro-fascist groups as 'We the People.'

Members of the Senate committee on Public Health are Sen. Walter J. Hoey (D.) of Milford, Sussex County; Sen. John E. Reilly (D.) of Wilmington, New Castle County; Sen. S. W. Harrison of Wyoming, Kent County; Sen. Elwood F. Melson, Jr. (R.) of Claymont, New Castle County and Sen. Wilmer F. Williams (R.) of Roselle, New Castle County.

seemingly the Communist Party is called upon and intends to play a greater and more effective role in its day-to-day activities around the major issues of concern to these millions.

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In addition, it ridiculed as "sheer poppycock" and as "a lying piece of FBI propaganda," a recent Philadelphia Inquirer "story" out of Washington, D. C. The "story" featured on the front page, "reported" that the Communist Party in Philadelphia was "coming up from the underground" and that this was being done "on orders from Moscow."

"The Communist Party in Philadelphia and elsewhere," the Committee stated, "has been openly and publicly active, despite the most intense harassment, persecutions and jailings."

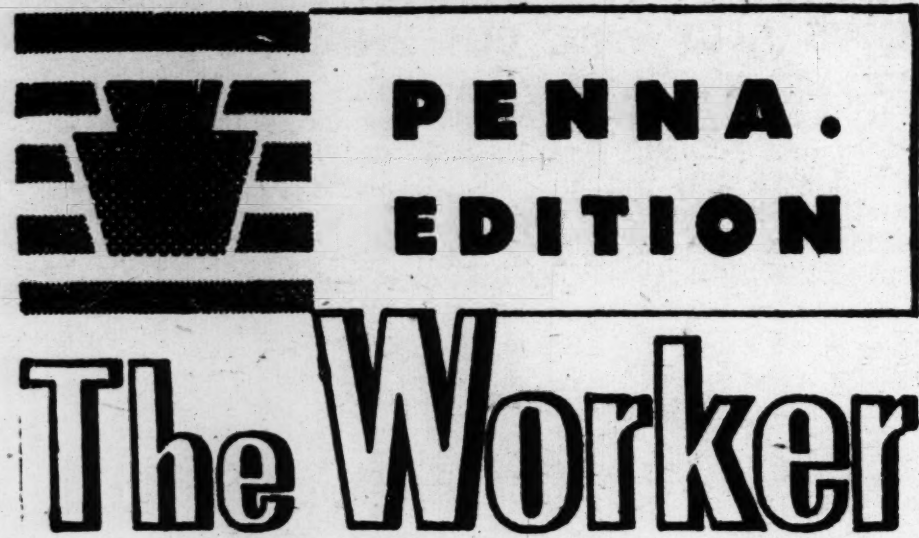
"We have at the same time," the Committee continued, "formulated plans and campaigns at this session of our Party's leadership, seeking to further our contributions to the major struggles in which the American people are now engaged. We intend to improve and expand that contribution in order to help guarantee that our nation's role in world affairs shall contribute to peace, not war, and that the domestic policies of our state and national administrations shall be in the interests of labor and the people and not in the interests of the monopolies."

"We will continue these activities, and win the people's support, despite the nonsense to be found in the pages of The Inquirer."

What's On

Friday, Jan. 6, at 8:30—at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel—Philip Evergood, artist, will speak on "Realism—And More of It," auspices Philadelphia Teachers Union.

Westinghouse Strikers Facing Guns, Tear Gas Need Support of Philadelphia Labor Movement



Address all correspondence to
ROBERT KLONSKY, Editor and Circulation Manager
P.O. Box 4517, Philadelphia, 31, Pa.

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 1956

By JOSEPH POSNER

LESTER, Pa.—Last month, when a truck driver hired by Westinghouse Corporation smashed into the strikers' picket line here and injured two workers, the company tried to benefit from the dirty business by charging that the incident proved the union (Local 107, United Electrical Workers) wants only violence and is not really interested in negotiating for its members.

What the company hoped would follow, of course, was that some UE members and other workers who might need jobs would lose faith in the union leadership and start scabbing.

But the company got nowhere. Its charge of violence fell flat because the union had maintained perfect discipline and refused to become provoked even when they saw their two comrades knocked down by the company truck.

And there was no scabbing, because every union in Delaware County is cooperating with the UE in this strike. Under such conditions, there's small market for scabs.

The incident ended with the company truck driver being held for the grand jury on charges of intent to kill.

Aside from the injury to its two members, the union lost nothing. This incident is but one of a series of similar strikebreaking provocations that the Westinghouse workers have faced and successfully met since the strike began ten weeks ago.

BUT NOW COMES news that Delaware County Sheriff Frank Snear will appear at the strike-bound Lester plant with 30 "able-bodied, husky" young men, armed with sticks, guns and tear gas.

Westinghouse claims this new strike-breaking power as a result of a "Writ of Assistance" issued at its request by Judge Henry Sweeney of the Delaware County Common

Pleas Court.

The order empowers Snear to call for any assistance needed to enforce a court order against mass picketing at the Lester plant.

In the light of the company's behavior at this plant, and also at the plants where the IUE is leading the strike in other cities, there is a need now for other labor unions and democratic groups outside of Delaware County to speak out against this threatened terror.

The only publicly announced assistance the UE has received from top labor circles in Philadelphia has come from Harry Block, IUE District 1 president. Block served on a delegation that went to Secretary of Labor and Industry John A. Torquato to plead for favorable action on UE's claim for unemployment insurance for its striking members.

There has been some significant support to UE as a result of rank and file action and from lower officials of several Philadelphia unions. (See Keystone Labor on Page 15).

Pa.-Del. CP Outlines Position on Principal Issues in the 1956 Presidential Election

PHILADELPHIA
INCREASED MASS intervention by the people to guarantee the objectives of the Geneva Summit conference—for peaceful co-existence and peaceful competition between nations—was seen by Communist Party leaders here as the dominant current influencing the course of the 1956 elections. In his report, delivered to a meeting of the District Committee of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware held here last week, Joseph Roberts, district chairman, reiterated the Party's conviction that, despite the failure to reach agreement on major issues at the recent Foreign Ministers Conference, "This, by no means marks the end of either the 'Spirit of Geneva' nor does it prevent the fulfillment of the objectives advanced at the Geneva Summit conference."

The "uncompromising, take-it-or-leave-it attitude" displayed by Secretary Dulles was cited by Roberts as a "major factor responsible for the lack of progress at the Foreign Ministers conference." Roberts warned that "Dulles' performance at the conference has emboldened the most reactionary, pro-war forces in the Republican

Party, typified by a Knowland and a McCarthy."

It is these forces, he indicated, who have again openly renewed their struggle against all efforts at ending the cold war. It is this struggle, he stated, which is expected to dominate the 1956 elections.

(In both the report and the spirited discussion developed by all Committee members, complete endorsement was given to the main estimates and policies adopted at a national conference of Communist leaders, held in New York last December 3, 4 and 5. The main reports delivered at this national gathering are scheduled for publication in the January issue of Political Affairs, it was announced).

Continuing his estimate of the national political scene, Roberts described the emergence and rapid development of two main currents which will become increasingly reflected as the 1956 political battles unfold: (1) the mass movements of labor, the Negro people, farmers, small businessmen and youth, aimed at the ousting of the Eisenhower Administration's "Cadillac Cabinet" beginning to merge with (2) the growing mass sentiment

for the fulfillment of the Geneva objectives.

Roberts emphasized that movements and struggles embracing millions will, to a major extent, help determine the character and outcome of the elections. "These movements and struggles, already taking place, will grow in their scope and intensity in the months to come as a result of the impetus given to them by the following developments in 1955:

- The merger of organized labor into one powerful trade union center;

- The heightened level and militancy of the Negro people's struggle for an end to all forms of segregation and discrimination and the new allies being won to that struggle;

- The rising demands of the farmers for solutions to their increasing economic problems;

- The advances already achieved this past year in the struggle for democratic rights and the growing demand for an end to cold war hysteria and repression.

Outlining the general role of left and progressive forces—and especially that of the Communists—in 1956, Roberts stated:

(Continued on Page 15)

Phila. Scoff at Transport Monopoly's "Explanation"

PTC Claims of \$300,000 Annual Loss By New Fare Hike It Demanded, Gets the Horse Laugh

By JAMES DOLSEN

PHILADELPHIA.
BIG ADS in the newspapers here by the PTC told Philadelphians that the increased fares, which became effective just before Christmas, will cause an initial loss of over \$300,000 annually to the transportation monopoly. It is hardly likely that any of its patrons look on this 11 percent hike in the basic fare—from 18 to 20 cents a ride—as a holiday gift or that the general public believes the company actually anticipates any such loss by this ninth jacking up of fares in the past nine years.

The PTC management puffs up its generosity in adding seven inches to the previous 35, which was the maximum height of a child allowed to ride free if accompanied by a fare-paying passenger. Another concession is permitting two children under 12 years old to ride free on Sundays, New Year's, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas days on ALL PTC bus lines instead of only on those bus lines which had replaced trolley lines.

No information is available by which to check how much

of a "concession" this really is. Since it affects children it was a good public relations move. However, if it brings about more family patronage, that will ring up more increased fares.

PTC claims that 60 percent of its patrons will either save money or pay the same fares as before the raise. About 25 percent will pay a half-cent a ride more due to the increased cost of tokens (five for 90 cents in place of two for 35 cents). A sixth (16 2/3 percent) will pay two cents more a ride unless they invest in tokens.

THE CORPORATION makes much of the fact that a 20-cent fare eliminates the delays involved in handling pennies under the 18-cent fare and that regular riders will buy five tokens at a time instead of two, eliminating in each five days the time required for three token-purchase transaction.

The logic of this reasoning leads straight to a 25-cent basic fare and a raise in the cost of tokens to a dollar for five. That would save a lot of time in making change. The result would be—as the company says—that riders would get to their destination quicker and "service ex-

pedited" all along the line.

Mechanical devices for collection of fares and dispensing of transfers—which are now free on payment of the 20-cent fare—are being installed to speed up the movement of passengers and traffic generally. The firm says nothing of workers losing their employment by such labor-saving contrivances, though "rationalization" schemes the management has put into effect have caused bitter protests from the Transport Workers Union, which represents the operating and maintenance workers.

NO OBJECTIONS to the increase in fares was received from any source, according to the PUC, although the city, which owns the bulk of the system, had always previously contested such hikes. Since the Councilmen and Mayor—having their own cars, ride little or not at all on the PTC system—they do not suffer from its inadequacies as do the tens of thousands of workers forced to use it daily. A two-cent a ride raise in fares does not affect the income of these officials, though it does thousands of the ordinary city employees.

Under these circumstances it

"Since the merger at the 'top' is now an accomplished fact, we see no reason why men of good intentions cannot sit down and work out the details for local labor unity," the editorial declares.

Translating theory into practice, the Lehigh County Industrial Union Council (CIO) and the Allentown Central Trades and Labor Council (AFL) have taken the first step in consolidating the activities of the two groups by providing for "coordinated effort on publicity and public relations."

A SIX-MAN Press Policy Committee has been appointed—three from the CIO and three from the AFL—to establish the editorial policy of the newspaper, the scope of its news coverage, and its overall policy.

CIO members of this committee are Peter Umbolz, manager of the Allentown District Joint Board of the Textile Workers; George Kalkovich, chairman of the Political Action Committee and delegate from the United Auto Work-

ers; Alfred Boandl, president of Local 3048, United Steelworkers. Representing the AFL are the following officials of the local Central Trades & Labor Council: its secretary—Horace Geary, of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters & Butcher Workmen; its vice president—Elmer Lehr, of the United Cement, Lime & Gypsum Workers; and its treasurer—Alvin Laudenslager, of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway & Motor Coach Employees.

A STATEMENT by the committee emphasized the need that the labor press "should be doing a more effective job in the Lehigh Valley in serving the welfare of union members in selling the benefits of trade unionism to those who are not enjoying its protection, and in creating a better understanding of the principles and philosophies of the trade union movement through the education of a well-planned public relations program."

The editorial quoted stresses that "Labor will be under constant attack in the months ahead. Every personality feud, every statement that can be misinterpreted, every wedge that can be driven, will be employed by labor's foes and the reactionary big press to reduce the effectiveness of unity."

"From what we know of Lehigh Valley labor history, the merger can be accomplished (here) in short order," is the newspaper's confident prediction.

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all over this land!